56-LA-156 VOL 2 SER 1-OPEN

FBI - CENTRAL RECORDS CENTER

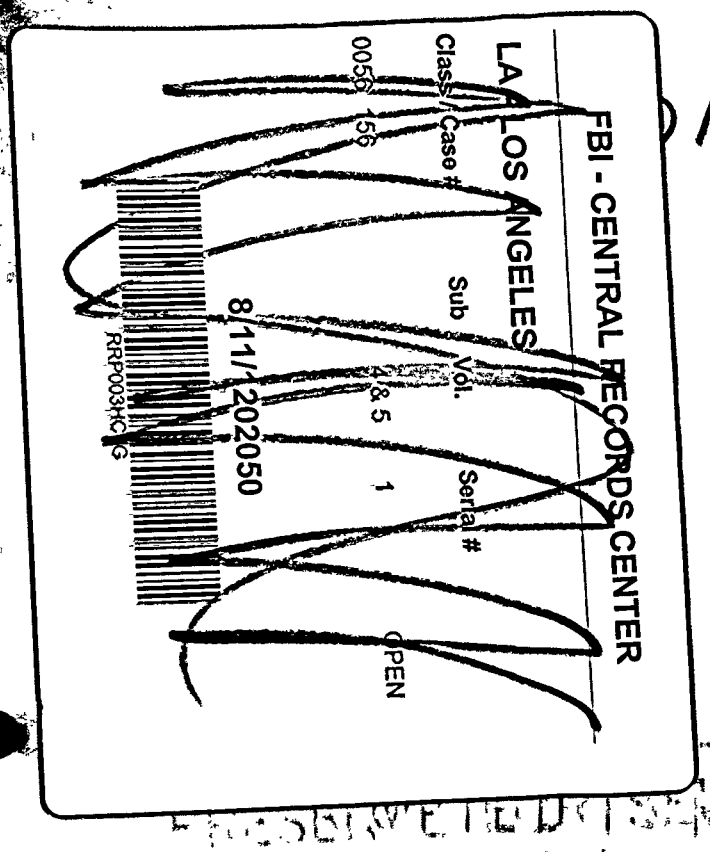
LA - LOS ANGELES ASSASSINATION REPORT PART 2

Class / Case #	Sub	Vol.	Serial #
0056 156		2	06/1968 02/1969

8/11/1202050

RRP003HC7G

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



...IN REPORT

...SSIFIED DESIGNATION

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

	NUMBER	DATE
All Weisar, James H	DO NOT DESTROY 255315	3-20-85
	PENDING LITIGATION	67
	129, 198, 167, 277, 394	217
		104
210	277B	115
	277A	
	167	

56-156

Vol IV & V

DO NOT DESTR
HISTORICAL VAL
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD - 245 (REV. 4-13-60)

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

CLASSIFICATION NO.

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

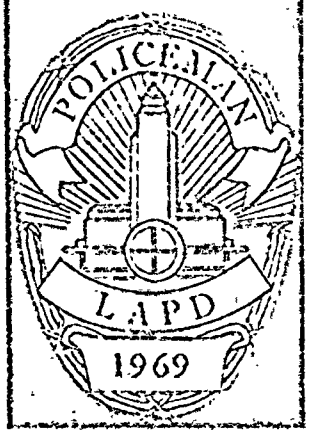
Bureau File Number

Serials

Volume Number

See also Nos.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



An INVESTIGATION SUMMARY of the SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

June 5, 1968

VOLUME IV Pages 405--587
DETECTIVE BUREAU - LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

An INVESTIGATION SUMMARY of the SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

The FINAL REPORT February 1969

SPECIAL UNIT SENATOR
DETECTIVE BUREAU – LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

VOLUME IV

CHAPTER V

INVESTIGATION OF POSSIBLE CONSPIRACY

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

EVENTS AT THE AMBASSADOR AND CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

During the investigation it was suggested that Sirhan had one or more co-conspirators who took positions near other exits in anticipation that Kennedy would walk to a location other than the pantry. The possibility that this might have occurred caused investigators to place special emphasis on the interviews with witnesses who said they were near Embassy Room exits. Most of these witnesses were vague and could not relate what went on in the vicinity where they were standing. Those persons described as being suspicious generally turned out to be Latins employed by the hotel; however, the majority of witnesses were unable to describe any individual at a given time or place.

Kennedy Plans After the Victory Speech

The persons who managed Senator Robert F. Kennedy's campaign, and others reported to be close to the Senator, all agreed on his plans for election night, June 4, 1968. It was intended that the Senator would speak to an overflow crowd of supporters gathered in the Embassy Ballroom of the hotel; he would then attend a party. However, his itinerary between these two functions was the subject of disagreement among his staff members.

Various members of the Kennedy staff stated that the Senator had a habit of walking through the audience at the conclusion of his speeches. Other members of his staff thought he was going to the Ambassador Room to speak to the supporters crowded in that room, while still others reported that Senator Kennedy's motorcade vehicles were waiting in front of the hotel at the

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

time he completed the speech. Members of the press stated that he habitually held a press conference after his speeches,

In the event an interested person had made inquiries concerning the route Senator Kennedy planned to take after the speech, he would have been informed that the Senator intended to use one of three exits; this depended upon who was asked. These exits were: (1) The main ballroom exit, had Kennedy walked through the crowd. (2) The pantry, the closest way to the press room. (3) The inside stairs to the northwest of the stage, the route to the Ambassador Ballroom.

Guards at Exits

The main ballroom exit was guarded by two uniformed hotel guards, Albert Stowers and Jack Merritt. Arthur Maddox and Fred Murphy, both hotel security men, were in the hallway near the main doors. None of these security men reported any suspicious persons loitering about the exit.

The exit to the rear of the stage, leading to the pantry, was guarded by Thomas Perez. Two other guards, Stanley Kawalec and Thane Cesar waited for and accompanied Senator Kennedy through the pantry. No one considered Sirhan to be suspicious, although he was observed to be loitering in the pantry.

The inside stairway, leading to the Ambassador Room, was guarded by Willie Bell and Curtis Lloyd, uniformed hotel guards placed at that location for crowd control purposes. They were

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

joined by William Gardner, Hotel Security Chief, during the speech; the three of them awaited Senator Kennedy's arrival on the Casino Level. They did not observe any suspicious persons loitering at their location.

The Kennedy Staff Anchor Desk was located at the top of this stairway. Staff members, Lucy Salinger and Louis Warschaw, were at the Anchor Desk with John Frankenheimer, a friend of the Senator. They reported that they did not observe any suspicious persons at that location.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

THE POLKA DOT DRESS INVESTIGATION

Miss Sandra Serrano came to the attention of investigators on June 5, 1968, when she described a female running from the scene of the assassination of Robert Kennedy. She alleged that the female stated, "We shot him, we shot him." The person was alleged to have been wearing a polka dot dress. Miss Serrano's allegation was partially corroborated by statements of another witness, Vincent Di Pierro. A full-scale investigation and search for this suspect took place as a result.

Subsequent investigation revealed that Miss Serrano had concocted the entire story of the female suspect. Evidence also indicated that Miss Serrano could not have heard or seen all of the events that she alleged. The investigation of the "Girl in the Polka Dot Dress" follows:

Events at the Hotel

On June 5, 1968, at 12:30 a.m., John Ambrose, a Los Angeles Deputy District Attorney, was approached outside the main entrance of the Ambassador Hotel by Sandra Serrano a 20-year-old Kennedy worker. She was obviously excited and told Ambrose that prior to her learning of the shooting, a man and woman walked toward her in a hotel corridor. As they passed, the woman stated, "We just shot him." Serrano asked the woman, "Who shot who?" The woman replied, "We just shot Senator Kennedy." Serrano described the man and woman as follows:

> Female Caucasian, 22-26, 5-5, good figure, wearing a white dress with black polka dots, with a bib collar, long sleeves

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

and wearing heels.

Male Mexican-American, 23, wearing a gold sweater.

Ambrose, realizing the importance of her statement, directed her to detectives in the Embassy Room. While waiting for the investigators, she was interviewed by Sandor Vanocur, an NBC-TV news commentator, on a live telecast over the NBC television network. During the interview, she stated essentially the same information she had told Ambrose, but changed the location of the encounter with the couple from a corridor inside the hotel to an outside staircase. After her encounter and before meeting Ambrose, she telephoned her parents, Manuel and Amparo Serrano, at their home in Lorain, Ohio, to tell them about the shooting.

Sandra Serrano Interviews

Serrano was interviewed at Rampart Station at 2:35 a.m. on June 5, 1968. She stated that while on an outside staircase of the hotel, she observed the female and two male companions going upstairs. She thought she heard gunshots, but at the time thought they were the backfires of a car. The female and one of the males reappeared running down the stairs. The male that did not come back down the stairs was described as Mexican-American, 23-25, 5-2 to 5-5, 130-135, wearing a light shirt, possibly beige pants and needing a haircut. Serrano was certain that she could identify the female and the male companion who came back down the stairs but wasn't sure if she could identify the other male she had seen walking up the stairs.

At 4 a.m. Serrano was reinterviewed. During this interview, Serrano's statements were essentially the same as in her previous

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

interview. She did elaborate on the description of the polka dot dress, stating the dress was an "A-frame" style with a "bib collar" and "3/4 length sleeves." The dress was "white with black polka dots approximately 1/8" in size."

Vincent Di Pierro Corroborated Serrano's Allegations

At 4:25 a.m. at Parker Center, investigators interviewed Vincent Di Pierro. During this interview Di Pierro stated that he is employed at the Ambassador Hotel as a waiter. He stated that he was in the pantry when Senator Kennedy was shot and that he observed the shooting. He saw Sirhan on a tray stand in the pantry area at the east end of the ice machine. He observed a female wearing a polka dot dress standing next to Sirhan. Di Pierro believed the female and Sirhan were together; he observed Sirhan turn toward the female, appear to say something and she turned and smiled at him. Di Pierro described the female as Caucasian, 20-24, well built, brunette colored shoulder length hair, wearing a white dress with black polka dots.

As a result of receiving the information from Serrano and Di Pierro, the Los Angeles Police Department broadcast a teletype requesting information for the arrest of a woman in a polka dot dress. The teletype was sent at 11:50 a.m., June 5, 1968, and an identical description on a supplemental teletype was sent at 12:30 p.m. the same day. The description was as follows: Female Caucasian, 23-27, 5-6, wearing a white voile dress, 3/4 sleeves with small black polka dots, dark shoes, bouffant-type hair.

The Follow-up Investigation

On June 7, 1968, Serrano reviewed colored films taken at the

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Ambassador Hotel by NBC News in an attempt to identify the suspects she had seen on the steps. She was unable to do so.

On June 7, 1968, Serrano was interviewed by F.B.I. Special Agent Richard C. Burris at her home, 2212 North Marengo Street, Altadena. Serrano told him that on June 4, 1968, at 8:30 p.m., that she left the Youth for Kennedy Pasadena Headquarters with four committee workers. At 11:30 p.m., she left the Ambassador Ballroom and went out onto an outside stairway. She sat on the fifth or sixth step of the stairs that lead up to the Embassy Room. Two or three minutes later a woman and two men started up the stairs. When the woman got near her, the woman said, "Excuse us," and Serrano moved to the side so the three could pass. For the next 20 to 25 minutes, no other person went up or down past her. After hearing some noises that sounded like an automobile backfire, one of the men and the woman ran back down the stairs. The woman yelled, "We shot him, we shot him." "Who did you shoot?" she asked. The woman replied, "Senator Kennedy."

Serrano went inside the hallway area and asked an unidentified guard if Senator Kennedy had been shot. The guard told her she must have had too much to drink. She went to a public phone booth inside the Ambassador Hotel and called her parents in Ohio. While Serrano was in the phone booth, Barbara Fleckenstein, a Kennedy co-worker, approached and asked her if it were true that Senator Kennedy had been shot and she answered, "Yes." Serrano stated that she had difficulty in explaining to her parents what had happened, because she was crying and near complete hysteria.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

After leaving the phone booth, she went back to the Ambassador Ballroom and met Greg Abbott and Dave Haines, both co-workers, but was unable to get either to understand what had happened. As she walked out of the ballroom, she met Irene Chavez, a good friend, and began walking towards the parking lot. Serrano then walked up to a man (John Ambrose) and told him what she had heard the woman say. Ambrose directed her to a policeman in the Embassy Room. While she was sitting in the Embassy Room waiting to be interviewed by the police, a person asked if she were a witness and before she realized it she was being interviewed on television. Serrano was then taken to Rampart Station where she was interviewed by investigators from the Department.

On June 8, 1968, F.B.I. investigators interviewed Manuel Serrano and Amparo Serrano, parents of Sandra Serrano. They verified their daughter's statement regarding a phone call to them the night of the shooting. Amparo Serrano does not recall her daughter mentioning anything about a girl saying, "We just shot Senator Kennedy." She does remember her saying, "Why would they do anything like this?"

On June 10, 1968, Serrano viewed eight assorted dress styles in an effort to pick out a dress similar to the polka dot dress. These dresses were numbered one through eight for identification purposes. After viewing each dress, she picked out dress number six and stated it looked the same as the polka dot dress except for the sleeve length.

Di Pierro viewed the eight assorted dresses and selected dress

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

number four as most like the polka dot dress he had seen at the Ambassador Hotel. Di Pierro recalled talking to Sandra Serrano while they were waiting to be interviewed on the night of the shooting. During this conversation, the woman wearing the polka dot dress was mentioned but was not described by either except for saying it was white with black polka dots.

After viewing the dress Serrano was asked if she would consent to a polygraph examination to verify her statement. She answered affirmatively. She was also asked to reenact the incident on the stairs. She consented and a video tape was made of her sitting on the outside stairway leading down from the southwest corner of the Embassy Room.

Elements of the Investigation Conflict

On June 19, 1968, investigators interviewed Captain Cecil R. Lynch of the Los Angeles Fire Department. Lynch stated that the night of the assassination he was assigned to enforce occupancy and fire regulations at the Ambassador Hotel. During the time Senator Kennedy made his victory speech in the Embassy Room, Lynch began checking various stairways and exits for possible violations of fire regulations. Lynch stated that he checked the stairs Serrano alleged to have been seated on moments before Senator Kennedy was shot, and at that time no one was seated on the stairs.

On June 20, 1968, 11:30 a.m., sound-level tests were conducted at the Ambassador Ballroom. A .22 caliber Cadet model revolver was used, with .22 caliber ammunition which matched the brand

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

and lot used in the assassination. The test weapon was fired in the Embassy Room pantry at the same location that Senator Kennedy was shot. The weapon was held horizontal to the floor with the muzzle pointed towards the west door of the pantry. A series of one, four and eight shots were fired. During these tests, there were no functions occurring in the Embassy Room, Sunset Room or the Boulevard Room. The tests were conducted with the exit door from the Sunset Room both open and closed. The sound-level tests indicated it would have been impossible for Serrano to have heard the shots. The sound-level meter indicated a ½ decibel change when the test shots were fired. The minimum sound-level change discernible by a person with normal hearing is 2 decibels.

Serrano's Polygraph Examination

Investigators invited Serrano to take a polygraph examination. The polygraph examination was given by Sgt. Hernandez #7101 on June 20, 1968. The following report of the polygraph examination was submitted by Hernandez:

Sandra Serrano - Date of Examination - June 20, 1968

Allegation: Miss Serrano stated that on the late evening of June 4, 1968, she was sitting on a rear stairway approximately half-way up between the landing connecting the Sunset Room and the Embassy Ballroom of Ambassador Hotel. She stated that shortly before midnight she observed two males and one female walk up the stairway and enter the Embassy Ballroom. Miss Serrano described one of the men as being Sirhan and described

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the woman as wearing a white dress with black polka dots.

Miss Serrano stated that approximately ten to fifteen minutes after she observed these people enter the Embassy Room, she heard approximately eight to ten gunshots in succession; that a couple of minutes after the shots she observed the girl in the white and black polka dot dress and one of the men running down the stairway where she was still sitting. She noted that Sirhan was not with them. The girl in the polka dot dress was yelling, "We shot him, we shot him." Miss Serrano asked, "Who did you shoot?" and the girl answered, "Kennedy, we shot Kennedy." Serrano stated she later identified photographs of Sirhan Sirhan as the man who entered the Embassy Ballroom, but who failed to return with the other man and the girl in the polka dot dress after the shooting.

Conclusion: Polygraph examination disclosed that Sandra Serrano has never seen Sirhan Sirhan in person; further, that Miss Serrano fabricated, for some unknown reason, the story about the girl in the polka dot dress. Responses to relevant questions indicate that no one made statements to Miss Serrano telling her that they had shot Kennedy or that she heard any gunshots during the late evening of June 4 or early morning of June 5, 1968. Miss Serrano was informed of the results of the polygraph examination.

Results: Miss Serrano was interrogated extensively and ultimately she admitted that the story about Sirhan Sirhan, the girl in the polka dot dress and the gunshots was not true. She

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

stated that she had been sitting on the stairway at the time that she had mentioned and that she did hear a car backfire a couple of times, but she knew that the sounds did in fact come from a car, and were not gunshots. She said that while she was sitting on the stairway, approximately four or five people came running down the stairway screaming that Kennedy had been shot. She stated that no one at any time told her that "They had themselves shot Kennedy."

Miss Serrano stated that she had no knowledge of any polka dot dress until after the assassination and just prior to her being interviewed. She states that she was sitting waiting to be interviewed when she heard a kid making reference to a girl in a polka dot dress.

She talked to the young man and each of them inquired of the other about the description of the dress and the girl. According to Miss Serrano there must have been a mutual agreement between them as to the description of the girl and the polka dot dress. Miss Serrano stated that later when she was being questioned by the police, she felt that she should know more than she actually did, and eventually the statements which were attributed to her were publicized on TV and in newspapers. She said that she knew the statements were not true; but, that she could not change them because it would make her look like a fool.

Reinterview With Di Pierro

On July 1, 1968, Vincent Di Pierro was reinterviewed and given a polygraph examination by investigators. The polygraph operator determined that Di Pierro had been untruthful

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

about what he saw at the hotel. Di Pierro was advised of the statements of Miss Serrano. He admitted that he had discussed the polka dot dress with Serrano prior to his original interview. He stated that he had been confused the night of the assassination and that he had not seen a girl talking to Sirhan in the kitchen. Di Pierro advised investigators that he had not seen the girl in the polka dot dress but that he may have seen a girl somewhere in the hotel who caused him to think he had seen the girl Serrano mentioned.

Events Occurring in Response to the News Release Regarding the Girl in a Polka Dot Dress

On June 6, 1968, 3 p.m., Mrs. Edith Goldstein discovered a paper sack containing a gray dress with white polka dots, miscellaneous feminine undergarments and cosmetics. The sack was found lying in the alley at the rear of 1835 Crescent Heights Boulevard, Los Angeles. The property was booked found evidence at Rampart Station. Investigators interviewed Mrs. Ruby Nishio at 1835 Crescent Heights Boulevard, and the occupants of the neighboring homes, but were unable to obtain any further information.

On June 7, 1968, the contents of the sack containing a polka dot dress found by Edith Goldstein were processed for fingerprints by Latent Prints Section. Numerous fingerprints were found and photographed. These fingerprints were only adequate for elimination purposes.

The contents of the sack containing the polka dot dress found

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

by Edith Goldstein were analyzed for human hair and blood by Scientific Investigation Division. On June 18, 1968, no human hair or blood was found, and it was concluded that the clothing was new and had not been worn. The stains were probably caused by the clothing coming in contact with the lipstick and liquid face make up. The lipstick had no top and the liquid face make up showed evidence of leakage.

1. Cheryl Wessels was taken into custody at the County Jail at 1:30 p.m. on June 5, 1968, as the result of an informant's call naming her as the then-outstanding girl in the polka dot dress. She was released when it was learned she was at home during the time of the shooting.

2. Cathey S. Fulmer telephonically contacted the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department on June 7, 1968, and informed them she believed she was the girl in the polka dot dress wanted by this Department. Fulmer told detectives she was at the Ambassador on June 4/5, 1968, and was wearing a green dress with a orange polka dot scarf around her neck. Fulmer stated after the shooting she ran from the main entrance of the Embassy Room yelling, "They shot him." Serrano was certain that Fulmer was not the woman she had seen on the stairs after she viewed Fulmer in the lobby of Parker Center.

3. On June 7, 1968, investigators were notified that Laurel Koons was interviewed by the Vallejo Police Department on June 6, 1968, at 9:10 p.m., regarding the shooting of

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Kennedy. She told the Vallejo investigator that she was being accused by friends of being the girl in the polka dot dress. She explained that she was in San Diego the night of the shooting visiting her boyfriend Michael Teague who was aboard the U.S.S. Worden. She was described as a female Caucasian, 38, 5', 140, hazel eyes, long black hair with a slightly crooked nose. Due to Laurel Koons' physical description, it was apparent she was not the woman allegedly seen by Serrano.

Michael Teague (U.S. Navy) was interviewed and stated that Laurel Koons was with him in San Diego from May 31 or June 1, 1968, until June 3, 1968. On June 3, 1968, Teague went to sea and remained at sea June 4 and 5. He knew that Miss Koons had a ticket for the return flight to Vallejo but does not know for what date or on which airline.

4. On June 14, 1968, at 7 p.m., Muriel C. Lee informed the desk officer at Parker Center that she thought she was the woman that was involved in the Kennedy assassination. Investigator interviewed Mrs. Lee and learned that on the night of the assassination she was wearing a black long sleeve dress and a large white hat similar to a "Chef's" hat. Her physical description is female Caucasian, 48, 5-5½, 120, black hair, hazel eyes. Mrs. Lee felt she might be the woman sought by the police because she had been in the pantry area prior to and after the shooting. She stated she did not run from the pantry yelling anything. It was determined by investigators

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

that she was not the woman that Serrano allegedly had seen due to the totally different description of her clothing and her physical description.

5. Kris Sumpter was interviewed by investigators on June 18, 1968. She told investigators that she went to the Ambassador Hotel on June 4, 1968, and was wearing a white blouse with small black polka dots and a black skirt. She stated she was coming up a flight of stairs from the Ambassador Ballroom when Senator Kennedy was shot. Her description is female Caucasian, 21, 5-1, 150, brown, brown. Due to her location at the time of the shooting, her physical description and the clothing she was wearing, she was not the woman allegedly seen by Serrano on the steps.

6. A telephone call was received on June 19, 1968, from John Anthony, a producer for KTVU-TV San Francisco. He stated that he had obtained information from an informant, whom he refused to name, that a Joan London was seen the night of the shooting. It was alleged that Joan London was wearing a polka dot dress at the time.

On June 19, 1968, Ceasar Chavez, President of the Farm Workers Union, was interviewed, and he stated that he was at the Ambassador Hotel the night of the shooting. Chavez knows a Joan London that lives in San Francisco and states that he did not see her that night. The Joan London that he knows is 60 years old and writes for the Delano Farm Workers newspaper.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Due to the description of Mrs. London and her advanced age, it was concluded that she was not the woman allegedly seen by Serrano.

Actual Girl in Polka Dot Dress

Though Sandra Serrano and Vincent Di Pierro admitted that they did not actually see a girl in a black and white polka dot dress, a girl with a polka dot dress was in the pantry area when the shooting occurred. Valerie Schulte, a Kennedy Girl, was wearing a bright green dress with gold polka dots at the Ambassador Hotel the evening of June 4, 1968. Miss Schulte is blond and slender, and she does not fit the description which Serrano supplied investigators in any way.

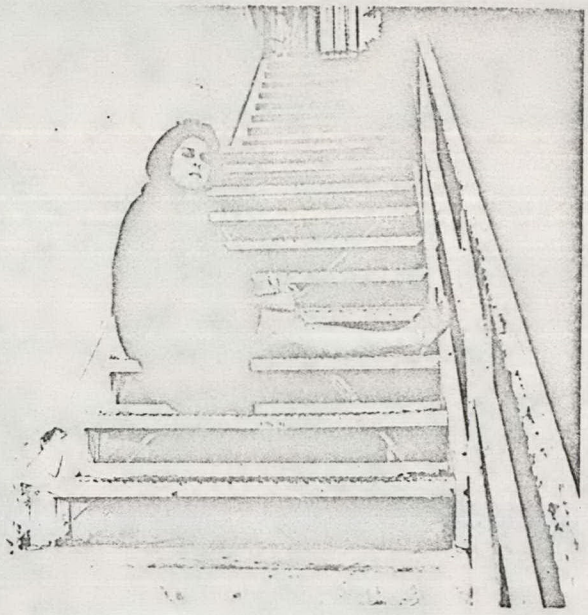
Miss Schulte was important in this investigation, however, because she observed the shooting of Senator Kennedy. Witnesses placed Schulte outside the pantry in the anteroom behind the ballroom podium prior to the shooting. She walked beside Kennedy as he went into the pantry, but she dropped behind him as he moved quickly foreward. She was walking on one crutch and wearing a leather support on her right leg. She was several feet behind Kennedy when the first shot was fired.

Investigators speculated that Vincent Di Pierro may have seen Schulte and confused her appearance in his mind. He was also in the kitchen at the time of the shooting. It was proven through witnesses' statements that Schulte could not have been close enough to Sirhan to speak to him, and it was obvious that she was not the suspected person.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

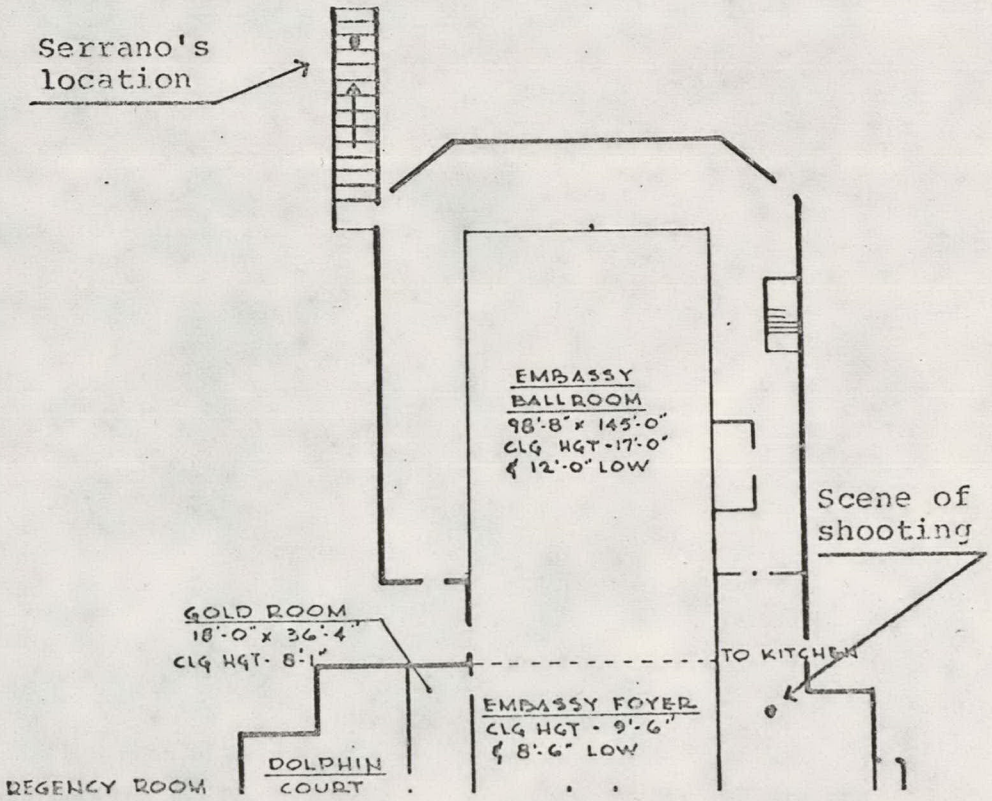
The investigation proved that a basis never existed for Serrano's allegation that there was a woman in a polka dot dress; or, that a conspiracy between Sirhan and such a woman had occurred. Nevertheless, Valerie Schulte coincidentally was present in the pantry area at the time of the shooting.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

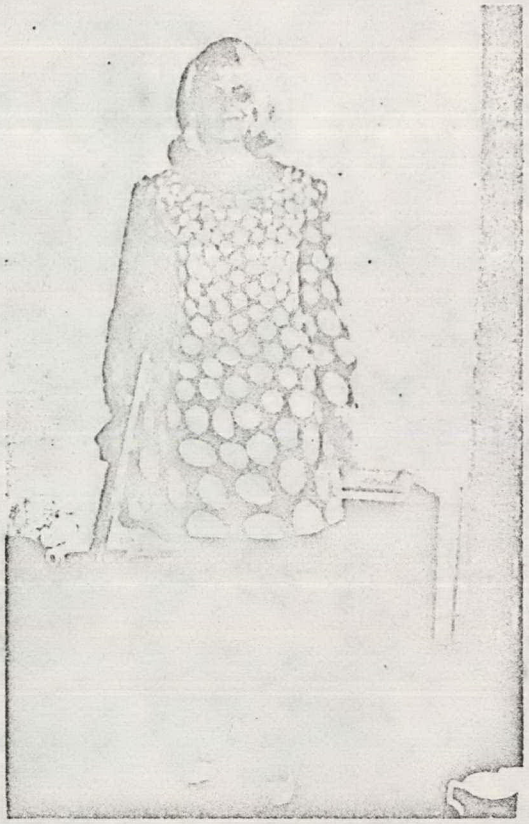


Sandra Serrano

Sandra Serrano stated that she was seated on this stairway, as she is depicted above, when she heard shots and then a woman wearing a polka dot dress ran down the stairs yelling, "We shot him." The investigation proved that Serrano could not have heard the shots from the kitchen, and a Fire Department Inspector stated that Serrano was not on the stairway after the shooting. The Polka Dot Dress Investigation was subsequently proven to be a hoax.



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



Valerie Schulte

Valerie Schulte was wearing a polka dot dress the night of the assassination and was in the pantry at the time of the shooting. Though she did not fit the description given by Sandra Serrano and Vincent Di Pierro, it was speculated that Di Pierro may have developed the polka dot idea because he saw Schulte. It was proven that Miss Schulte was involved in no way with the assassination.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

KHAIBAR KHAN

Investigation into the activities of Khaibar Khan brought about allegations of his complicity in the Kennedy assassination. Khan's involvement centered about his participation as a volunteer worker at the Kennedy Campaign Headquarters on June 1 through June 4, 1968. His Middle-Eastern appearance and peculiar behavior caused workers at the headquarters to feel that he had been involved somehow in the assassination.

It was alleged by witnesses that Khaibar Khan had been seen talking to Sirhan Sirhan at the Kennedy Headquarters. Sirhan was alleged to have been wearing a gun at the time. During the investigation, statements by Khan indicated that he himself may have seen Sirhan at the headquarters on June 4, 1968.

The investigation concluded that Khan had probably mistaken another person for Sirhan, and that witnesses had been incorrect about their assertions that Sirhan had been seen at the headquarters. The following is an account of the investigation regarding Khaibar Khan.

Khaibar Khan first came to the attention of investigators on June 13, 1968, as a result of a check of volunteer cards at the Kennedy Headquarters, 5615 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles.

The Office Manager of the Kennedy Headquarters, June Isackson, was contacted on June 13 regarding Khan. She stated that Khan, also known as "Goody," appeared at the headquarters and volunteered to work for Senator Kennedy. Isackson described

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Khan as a well-mannered somewhat over-dressed person, who appeared to do strange things. She felt that for some unexplained reasons Khan was not sincere and that he was a "phony." Isackson stated that Khan had told her he was a friend of the Kennedy family and of the Senator.

Khan was allegedly responsible for bringing fifteen to twenty volunteer workers prior to Election Day. All of these workers were individuals of Middle-Eastern descent. Investigation revealed that a total of twenty-four volunteer cards were written in the same handwriting and contained the same address: 10455½ Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles.

Bernard Isackson, husband of June Isackson, was also a volunteer worker at the Kennedy Headquarters. He related similar feelings toward Khan, stating that he was "very overbearing and that he seemed to be trying to impress someone." Mr. Isackson stated that Khan would meet volunteer workers entering the headquarters and escort them to the desk to register. He would then register them as personal friends and have them use his own address: 10455½ Wilshire Boulevard.

Larry Strick, a volunteer worker, was interviewed and stated that he had observed Khan in the company of Sirhan at the campaign headquarters on June 2, 1968. Subsequently, Strick was reinterviewed, and he retracted his former statement and explained that he was not positive that the person he saw in the campaign headquarters on June 2, 1968, in the company of Khan was Sirhan Sirhan. When Strick was shown several mug

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

shots, he was unable to identify Sirhan's photograph.

Mrs. Estelle Sterns was a volunteer worker who also claimed to have seen Sirhan with Khan. She related that Sirhan, Khan and another male Jordanian approached her desk on June 4, 1968, at 9:00 a.m. She related that Sirhan and the male Jordanian were carrying guns in shoulder type holsters. Khan, Sirhan and the male Jordanian then engaged her in a conversation regarding sports, and Sirhan invited her out for a cup of coffee. Mrs. Sterns' account was the subject of a separate investigation and report.

Mrs. Eleanor Severson was also a volunteer worker at the Kennedy Headquarters. In her interview she related that she worked at the same desk with Mrs. Sterns, and that she arrived at the Kennedy Headquarters on June 4, 1968, at approximately 8:30 a.m. She stated that she never left the desk until late in the afternoon. At no time did Mrs. Sterns talk to two young Jordanian men, nor was she asked to go out for coffee or a drink. There was no one at the desk with guns. In Mrs. Severson's opinion Mrs. Sterns was a "feather brain," and an excitable lady, who could not find enough reasons to make herself important to others. She believed that Mrs. Sterns made up the story to gain publicity.

Mrs. Severson stated that, to her knowledge, the only time a conversation took place between Mrs. Sterns and Khan was on June 3, 1968. This conversation consisted of sports, in particular golf, and nothing more.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Mrs. Charles Henebray, who also worked at the Kennedy Headquarters, was interviewed. Mr. Henebray reported for work at 7:40 a.m. on June 4 and worked until 8:00 p.m. During this time he met three individuals of Middle-Eastern extraction. They were Khan, Miss Maryam Kouchan and Khan's son. At no time did he observe any individuals with guns.

Interview with Talat Khan

On June 14, 1968, investigators went to 10455½ Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, to contact Khaibar Khan. They were met by Mrs. Talat Khan who explained that she was the ex-wife of Khan and had been divorced from him since 1961. Mrs. Khan did not know the residence or business address of Khan and stated that Khan still used her address and phone number as his own. She stated that she had four children, three of whom had worked in the Senator's campaign.

Mrs. Khan stated that she knew little of Khan's activities and only knew that he was some type of a honorary chairman of a group that is anti-Iranian. She stated that he had been involved in some construction deals with the Shah of Iran, and since that time he had been a political exile from that country.

Interviews with Khaibar Khan

The following information was received from Khaibar Khan during five separate interviews from June 18, 1968, through July 28, 1968. Interviews took place at various locations including parks, coffee shops and various motels. Khan insisted that investigators be assigned assumed names in order to set up

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

appointments. Khan felt that this would be advisable since he feared for his security. He advised investigators that he had the nickname of "Goody" because his last name was at one time "Goodarzian." He had legally changed his name, but his friends still knew him by that name.

Khan mentioned that he was reluctant to furnish his address as he anticipated reprisals from members of the Iranian government because of his opposition to the Shah. This opposition stemmed from testimony which Khan stated that he made before the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations in 1963. Khan stated that at these hearings he had been personally introduced to Senator Robert Kennedy and had since that time supported the policies of the late President John F. Kennedy and Robert Kennedy.

Khan also stated that in 1963 he had registered as a representative of a Foreign Principal with the Registration Section of the Internal Security Division of the United States Department of Justice. This registration had been in connection with the organization which had supported Khan's claims of irregularities in the handling of U.S. foreign aid to the poor of Iran. Khan referred investigators to a copy of the April 12, 1965, issue of "The Nation" which contained an article about his activities and allegations concerning the misuse of U.S. foreign aid funds in Iran.

Khan stated during his interview that between June 1 and June 4 he had been wearing a cast for an injury which he received while

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

leaving his ex-wife's apartment in March of 1968. The injury occurred when unknown suspects attacked him. Khan reported the incident to West Los Angeles Detectives, but to date the case was unsolved.

The following is Khan's account of his activities at the Kennedy Headquarters:

His first visit to the headquarters was on June 1, 1968, in the afternoon. Khan registered under his true name and met Marguerite Sweeney who was supposedly in charge of volunteer workers. Kahn was assigned to answer telephones and during the next four days was responsible for registering several persons at the headquarters. Khan confirmed that he advised these people to use his address and phone number.

Khan and his half sister, Maryam Kouchan, both worked at the headquarters on June 2, from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Khan and his daughter, Miss Shirria Khan, worked at the campaign headquarters on June 3, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

On June 4, 1968, at 2:00 p.m., Khan came to the headquarters accompanied by Maryam Kouchan and his son, Phillipe Khan. During the day's activities, Khan observed a female Caucasian, twenty-three to twenty-six years, wearing a short dress with polka dots. The female appeared to be talking to a male Caucasian, dark complexion, short in height, wearing a blue "McGregor" type windbreaker, white shirt and tight trousers. They appeared to be talking to one another since they were facing each other and their lips were moving. Due to the

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

distance Khan could not overhear any conversation.

Khan was shown a group of photographs, one of which was that of Sirhan Sirhan. Khan then selected the photograph of Sirhan Sirhan and stated that this possibly was the same person he had seen on June 4, 1968, inside the headquarters, but that he could not be positive.

Due to the fact that Khan possibly saw someone resembling Sirhan, he was asked if he would attend a lineup. Khan declined the invitation and also refused to volunteer to take a polygraph examination.

Khan further stated that he did not wish to get mixed up in an affair involving the Arabian countries and the Jewish state that might come as a result of the assassination. He stated he did not actually see the young girl talking to the person thought to be Sirhan on June 4, but that they were face to face, and that he would not testify in a court of law unless he was one hundred percent sure.

At approximately 8:00 p.m. on June 4, 1968, Khan and Miss Kouchan left the headquarters. They met a young man in his early twenties who had asked Miss Kouchan if they were going to the Ambassador Hotel. When he was informed that they were not, but were heading toward West Los Angeles, the young man asked for a ride. He was in the car when Khan came out of the headquarters. The young man asked Khan if he would give him the campaign button that he was wearing so he might use it to get into the Ambassador Hotel. Khan declined and the man became

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

persistent. The man wanted Khan to go back to the headquarters and get him a Kennedy button or a press pass or something which would enable him to get into the party at the Ambassador. Khan again refused.

Khan drove the young man to the vicinity of Westwood and Wilshire Boulevards. The young man gave Khan a piece of paper with his name and address on it. This was given to Khan in case he could acquire additional campaign passes or buttons that Khan could send to the young man. The young man's name and address as written on the paper was: Michael Wayne, 1430 South Hipoint Street, #105, Los Angeles, California 90035.

Michael David Wayne was subsequently detained at the Ambassador Hotel immediately after the assassination. He had been observed running from the vicinity of the shooting. It was determined that he was only a souvenir hunter and not involved in the assassination.

Khan was advised that two volunteer workers, Larry Strick and Estelle Sterns, thought they had seen Sirhan Sirhan on June 2 standing near the information desk at the headquarters at about 2:00 p.m. When Strick had asked the man thought to be Sirhan if he could help him, the man replied, "No thanks, I'm with him," and pointed in the direction of Khan.

Khan said that he had no recollection of this incident or of seeing Sirhan at that time. He feels that the only time he could have seen Sirhan was on June 4.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Khan was further advised that co-workers at the headquarters had stated that Khan had brought in a number of young people of Middle-Eastern descent as volunteer workers, and that Sirhan may have been part of this group.

Khan related that he brought his four children and his half sister. He told them to bring their friends and anyone who might be a potential volunteer for Kennedy. There were a number of persons who had responded and used his address, and this probably showed a connection with either himself or his address. Khan did not know the names of these individuals, but felt that they were probably of Iranian descent.

On June 27, 1968, investigators learned from Khan that he had been arrested by the Immigration and Naturalization Service for remaining in this country over the specified time, and that a Deportation hearing had been set for July 19, 1968. Khan's record indicated an arrest in Los Angeles under the name of Mohammad Ali for 647(f) P.C. on January 13, 1967.

Khan's children were interviewed and acknowledge that they worked at the Kennedy Headquarters, but when shown the photographs of Sirhan they made no identification.

Miss Maryam Kouchan was shown the photographs of Sirhan, and she identified Sirhan as a person she possibly had seen at the headquarters on June 2, 1968. She first observed this person at approximately 2:00 p.m. when he opened the door to the headquarters for her. Approximately two hours later inside the headquarters, she again observed this person thought to be

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Sirhan standing near the women's rest room. He was alone and appeared to be exiting via the rear doors. She did not see him talking with anyone during any of this time. Miss Kouchan was invited to attend a lineup to positively identify the person she observed as Sirhan. Miss Kouchan refused to attend the lineup and to take a polygraph examination. She stated that she could not be absolutely sure without seeing Sirhan in person.

Allegations of witnesses that they had seen Sirhan with Khan were discounted by the statements of other witnesses. Khan, upon further reflection, was unable to state that he had seen Sirhan at the headquarters. Miss Koucham likewise would not positively identify Sirhan as being in the headquarters. Based upon the statements of witnesses and the involved parties, investigators concluded that Sirhan was probably not in the Kennedy Headquarters prior to the assassination. They further concluded that Khan was not involved in any way with Sirhan.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

ESTELLE STERNS

Mrs. Estelle Sterns was a volunteer worker at the Kennedy Campaign Headquarters prior to the assassination. She alleged that she had observed Sirhan Sirhan at the campaign headquarters on June 4, 1968 at 9 a.m. She also alleged that Sirhan and another man had been wearing guns on that occasion.

Intensive investigation into the whereabouts and activities of Sirhan on June 4th determined that he was at home at the time that Sterns alleged that she saw him. Mrs. Sterns refused to admit that she had not seen Sirhan and after agreeing to submit to a polygraph examination she refused to appear for the test. Interviews with witnesses revealed that Sterns was a very erratic person and indications were that she fabricated her allegation to bring attention to herself. An account of the Estelle Sterns investigation follows:

On June 19, 1968, Mrs. Estelle Sterns came to the Rampart Detective Division to report an incident regarding Sirhan. She stated that on June 4, 1968, at 10 a.m., Sirhan, two other males and a female had entered the Kennedy Campaign Headquarters at 5615 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles and engaged her in a conversation. Sterns was a volunteer worker in charge of fund raising and she occupied the first desk next to the front door of the headquarters.

Sterns described the men as young dark complexioned Jordanians; the female was described as young and Jordanian. The older of

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the two other males asked Sterns her name and if he could have Senator Kennedy's itinerary. The male made a $3.00 contribution, walked to the rear of the headquarters and left.

Sirhan and the other male began talking to Sterns. She offered to get coffee for Sirhan when he asked if there was any in the headquarters. Sirhan declined the coffee and asked Sterns if she wanted to go out with him for coffee or a drink instead. Sterns stated that she declined and the conversation changed to Senator Kennedy's itinerary.

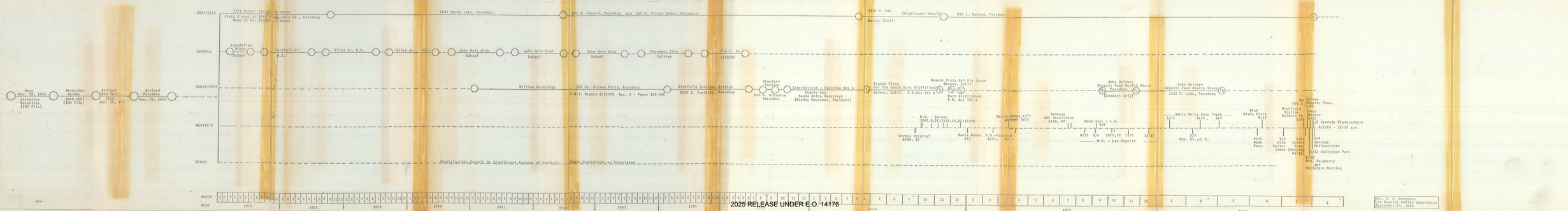
During this part of the conversation Sterns observed that Sirhan and the other male each had a gun in a shoulder holster under their coat. When she asked them about the guns Sirhan replied, "Oh, that is just for self protection, what with all this racial trouble in and around Watts." Sterns said that it was far from Watts to the headquarters. Sirhan said, "Well, we have them and anyway we have permits for the guns."

Sirhan and the male left at this time. The girl had remained outside the doorway the entire time of the conversation.

Sterns related two additional incidents relating to the assassination. She stated that on June 5, 1968, at approximately 12:30 a.m., she was awakened from bed by the ringing of her phone. She answered and a female voice said, "Is that you Estelle?" When she answered the voice said, "It's all over with." Sterns got up, turned on the television and learned of the shooting of Kennedy.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

A PROFILE — SIRHAN B. SIRHAN



Lt. C. A. Purpuro
Los Angeles Police Department
December 23, 1968

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Sterns stated that on June 6, 1968, at approximately 5:30 p.m., she received another phone call. A muffled male voice with a Middle-Eastern accent stated, "Under no circumstances give out any information to anybody as to the number of people, or their activities at your desk on Tuesday." (June 4, 1968)

Due to the serious nature of Sterns' allegation investigators asked that Mrs. Sterns submit to a polygraph examination. She was explained the functions and purpose of the test and readily agreed to take it. The separate investigation of Sirhan's activities on June 4, 1968, had shown that he could not have been at the Kennedy Headquarters at 9 a.m. Interviews with Sterns' co-workers revealed that she had not spoken to Sirhan at 9 a.m., on June 4, 1968. On June 26, 1968, Sterns refused to appear for her polygraph examination stating that she was too busy working in her new job in a political campaign to take the examination.

Mrs. Adele Leopold, a volunteer who worked in the headquarters with Sterns, stated that she was at the desk adjacent to Sterns on June 4, 1968. A male Arabian named Khaibar Khan brought some Arabian volunteers to the headquarters but she did not recall them speaking to Sterns. None of the volunteers was Sirhan nor did any of them have guns.

Mrs. Elenor Severson, also a volunteer worker, was at the headquarters the entire day on June 4, 1968. She stated that at no time did Sterns speak to an Arabian man about any subject. Severson stated that the Arabian man in question was Mr. Khaibar

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Khan a volunteer worker who had worked the previous couple of days at the headquarters. Severson stated that Sterns and Khan had spoken to one another on June 3, 1968. Their conversation had been about golf and other sports.

Mrs. Margaret Sweeney, Sterns' supervisor at the headquarters, provided investigators with essentially the same information. She stated that she had been at the hotel the night of the assassination and had seen Sirhan taken out of the hotel by officers. To the best of her knowledge Sirhan had never been in the campaign headquarters. She remembered Khan and the other Arabic persons being in the headquarters and at one time asked that they work in the rear of the headquarters to avoid any conflict between Arabic and Jewish persons who might confront one another. The subject of Khaibar Khan and his part in this report was the subject of a specific investigation.

The consensus of statements made by Leopold, Severson, Sweeney and others about Mrs. Sterns was that she was an excitable old lady, who was selfserving and apt to say anything to focus attention on herself. She was a lonesome woman who wanted to make herself feel important to others. Sweeney stated that had Sterns seen men with guns when she was alleged to have seen them, she would have immediately told everyone around her.

It was determined from information about Sirhan's activities that Sterns could not have seen Sirhan at the headquarters on June 4, 1968. Statements from co-workers regarding Sterns behavior and demeanor indicated that she was either honestly

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

mistaken in her identification of Sirhan or that she invented the story for her own reasons.

On July 15, 1968, investigators contacted Mrs. Sterns by telephone and advised her of the results of the investigation. The tone of her voice changed and she stated, "So you have all this information and I made a mistake. What do I care!" She was asked if she admitted making a mistake regarding the alleged incident. She replied, "No I'm not going to admit anything. If I made a mistake, I'm not going to admit it now."

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JOHN ANTOINE KHOURY

John Khoury became the object of an investigation by the District Attorney's Office and this Department after witnesses reported that they had seen him at the Ambassador Hotel the night of the assassination. It was alleged that Khoury was connected to the assassination investigation due to his allegedly anti-Israeli and anti-Kennedy attitudes. Khoury is similar in appearance and nationality with Sirhan Sirhan, and his employment at the Ambassador Hotel caused the suspicion of the reporting persons to be aroused.

The investigation revealed that there was no evidence to show an association between Khoury and Sirhan. No relationships, such as birthplace, schools, residences, employment, organi-aztions, friends, relatives and associates could be established between the two.

The investigation concluded that the witnesses were mistaken and that they could not have see Khoury at the hotel the evening of June 4, 1968. Khoury was cleared of any involvement in the assassination. The following is an account of the investigation into the matter of John Khoury.

Interviews with Witnesses

Mr. Fred Droz, employee of Cerrell, Winner and Associates, Suite 68, Ambassador Hotel, contacted the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office on June 5, 1968, and related the following events: On June 4, 1968, just before midnight Droz went to

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the pantry area of the Ambassador Hotel to congratulate Senator Kennedy. Droz was returning to his office when he observed John Khoury in the lobby of the hotel. Droz stated that he had known Khoury since 1966, when he met him as a student at California State College at Fullerton. He knew that Khoury worked at the hotel in the Controller's Office.

On June 5, 1968, at 10 a.m., Professor Joel Fisher, Professor of Political Science at California State College at Fullerton, contacted Fred Droz by telephone. Fisher asked Droz if he had seen Khoury at the hotel the night of the assassination. Droz stated that Fisher sounded alarmed and that he indicated that there might have been a conspiracy between Sirhan and Khoury. Fisher pointed out the similarities in nationality to Droz and advised him to report the information if he thought it was important.

Fisher learned of the assassination watching television at home the night of the assassination. At 1 a.m., he received a phone call from a former student, Sanford Groves, who was at the hotel. Fisher asked Groves if he had observed Khoury at the hotel. Groves answered affirmatively.

On June 6, 1968, Fisher was interviewed by District Attorney's investigators. Fisher related what he had learned about Khoury's presence at the hotel. Fisher described his experience with Khoury at California State College at Fullerton. As a student in his classes, Khoury had made anti-Israeli and anti-Kennedy remarks especially during the June 1967, Arab-Israeli War.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Fisher also stated that Khoury had attempted to bribe and deceive college staff members to make grade changes for him.

Fisher reported that he had received postcards from Khoury in 1966 and 1967, from the Caribbean, Mexico, Paris and Beirut. He did not have the cards nor did he remember the dates he received them. Khoury had made statements to Fisher that he might go to the Middle-East and join the Arab army as a lawyer. Fisher did not hear from Khoury from July to December 1967, and the next time he saw him was in January 1968, at the Ambassador Hotel. He subsequently learned that Khoury worked there.

Fisher claimed that it was widely believed among professors and students at CSCF that Khoury was the son of a bank vice-president in Beirut, Lebanon. He appeared to have a great deal of money at all times. Fisher had been advised, however, by an Arabian student, Farid Massouh, that Khoury did not have a family with money and that he was a "phony." Fisher felt that there might be a connection between Sirhan and Khoury because of the above-described circumstances.

District Attorney investigators interviewed Judy Groves on June 10, 1968. She confirmed that she knew Khoury from CSCF and that she saw him on three occasions the night of June 4, 1968, at the Ambassador Hotel.

Interview and Investigation of John Khoury

On June 10, 1968, Khoury was interviewed by the District Attorney's Office. He denied being at the hotel on June 4th.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

He stated that he left his job in the hotel Controller's Office at 5 p.m., and went directly home. He read at home until 1:40 a.m., when he went to the International Airport to pick up his wife. He did not return to work until 9 a.m., on June 5th. Because of Khoury's denial and the potential validity of the Fisher allegations, this Department assumed the responsibility for the investigation.

Investigators verified that Khoury's wife arrived on a flight at International Airport at 1:40 a.m., and Khoury was there to pick her up.

Investigators interviewed Fred Droz who verified Fisher's statements. He stated that he observed Khoury just after midnight on June 5th, near the hotel fountain. Droz also reported that on June 14, 1968, Khoury contacted his secretary and inquired of Droz's whereabouts. This was the first attempt by either Khoury or Droz to contact one another since their school association.

On July 15, 1968, investigators reinterviewed John Khoury at Parker Center. Khoury again denied that he was at the hotel or that he knew Sirhan. Investigators explained that his relationship with the shooting was becoming suspicious and that he should provide information that would alleviate that suspicion.

Khoury then told investigators that he had been working at the RCA Building in Hollywood from 6:30 p.m., until midnight on June 4, 1968. He worked a second job as a security guard for

2025-RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Globe Security, Inc., to supplement his income. Khoury had not told investigators of this for fear that he would jeopardize his employment with the hotel.

Mr. Julius Levin, Chief of Security and Khoury's supervisor, RCA Building, advised investigators that Khoury worked at the building from 6:30 p.m. to midnight on June 4th. Khoury was in uniform and did not leave early from work. Levin produced the sign-in sheet for the above date which corroborated Khoury's statements. Levin added he recalled that Khoury was at the building at 11:45 p.m.

Results of the Investigation

The background investigation of John Khoury and Sirhan indicated no association existed between them. The investigation concluded that the witnesses who reported observing Khoury the night of June 4th were mistaken. Investigators believed that the witnesses probably recalled seeing Khoury on various occasions at the hotel and that they confused those occasions with June 4, 1968. Witnesses Fisher, Droz and Judy Groves all admitted seeing Khoury at the hotel on various occasions prior to June 4, 1968. Khoury was cleared of any implication in the assassination by either association with Sirhan or by his presence at the hotel.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT WITH EXTREMIST GROUPS

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

On June 11, 1968, an article about Sirhan Sirhan appeared in two Orange County newspapers. The articles related that Jose Duarte, a leader of an anti-Castro Cuban group, had seen Sirhan at a Peace and Freedom Party meeting on May 21, 1968. Duarte subsequently alleged that he and Sirhan had become involved in an argument at that meeting and a slight altercation had ensued. Sirhan allegedly supported the Castro government policies.

The investigation of Duarte's allegation was complicated due to the presence at the meeting of several Persians, one of whom looked a great deal like Sirhan. Duarte insisted throughout the investigation that Sirhan had been at the meeting. He attempted to gain as much publicity as possible regarding his claims.

The resultant investigation revealed that Duarte and his associates either lied or were mistaken regarding Sirhan's presence at the meeting. A polygraph examination of Duarte indicated that he had never seen Sirhan. Numerous witnesses repudiated Duarte's allegation. A detailed account of the Duarte investigation follows:

On July 19, 1968, Jose Duarte was interviewed by investigators in his home and he gave the following account of a confrontation with Sirhan Sirhan. Duarte stated that he was the leader of an exiled anti-Castro group called UNARE (Unidad Nacional Revolucionaria). He stated that until 1960, he was a Major in Fidel Castro's revolutionary army. He severed his association with

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Castro due to increasing communist influence within the movement. He stated that since that time he had devoted his time to the anti-Castro movement and a book about Cuba which he was writing.

On May 21, 1968, Duarte and six of his followers attended a meeting sponsored by the Los Feliz Chapter of the Peace and Freedom Party at 3800 Amesbury Road, Los Angeles. Duarte stated that his group attended this meeting, as they did others, to speak in opposition to pro-Castro speeches which were announced as part of the meeting. /More than 1000 leaflets were distributed to Peace and Freedom Party members announcing the meeting. Announcements were also distributed at Los Angeles City College and one appeared in the Los Angeles Free Press./

The hosts of the meeting were Mr. and Mrs. Laemmle, both members of the Peace and Freedom Party. The meeting was attended by 40 to 50 persons of various political, religious and ethnic groups. Duarte's group attended the meeting to hear the speech of Mr. Paul Shinoff, an organizer for the Students for a Democratic Society. Shinoff gave a speech and presented slides depicting the Cuban revolution and its effect on the economic, social cultural and political life of Cuba.

At the end of Shinoff's presentation Duarte made a speech in opposition to Shinoff's statements. Duarte was heckled by various persons and a man in the audience argued with him about denouncing Castro. He identified this person as Sirhan Sirhan. Sirhan allegedly called Duarte a C.I.A. agent and asked him how much the C.I.A. was paying him. A very heated argument ensued

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

and they began to push at one another. Other persons at the meeting intervened to stop the argument.

Investigation of Persians Present at the Meeting

Investigating officers received information from the F.B.I. that a roster had been signed by several persons at the meeting. The names of three persons from that list were provided by Mr. Ron Scheinder, a member of the Peace and Freedom Party. After initially refusing to give the list or a copy of it to investigators, Schneider provided the complete list for investigators. Vanik Salmasizadhe, one of the three names initially provided investigators, provided more names of a group of Persians who had attended the meeting on May 21, 1968.

Salmasizadhe stated that after Paul Shinoff completed his presentation, a dark complexioned Cuban, identified as Jose Duarte, requested to speak. He was allowed to talk and several members of the audience heckled him.

One of the hecklers, Reza Jalalipour, and Duarte got into a very heated argument. No pushing or fighting occurred though the two men were close to one another. The Persian group, including Jalalipour, left shortly after the argument ended. Salmasizadhe stated that he did not see Sirhan at the meeting and that the only argument he saw was between Duarte and Jalalipour.

Investigators interviewed Jalalipour and Ali Khan Bouzmand who were present at the meeting. Jalalipour stated to investigators that he and Duarte had had an argument at the meeting; however,

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

He minimized the severity of the argument. He agreed to have his photograph taken for identification purposes.

Jalalipour furnished investigators with a handwriting exemplar for comparison with the roster he had signed at the meeting. The signature on the roster was Ray D. Pour. Jalalipour admitted signing that name. Sgt. R. F. Kiser, Scientific Investigation Division examined the two examples and gave his opinion that Reza Jalalipour had probably signed the name Ray D. Pour to the roster.

Ali Bouzmand was Jalalipour's roommate, and he attended the meeting with him and other Persians. He substantiated Jalalipour's account of the argument and stated that he did not see Sirhan at the meeting. Bouzmand fit the description of a man wearing a Van Dyke style beard whom Duarte stated he saw with Sirhan at the meeting.

Bouzmand was taken to the home of Jose Duarte for the purpose of identification. After looking closely at Bouzmand, Duarte winked at investigators and stated, "That's the man that was with Sirhan Sirhan."

Reinterview of Jose Duarte

The following day Duarte was reinterviewed and shown a photograph of Jalalipour. He stated that Jalalipour and Sirhan looked alike, but he insisted that Sirhan was the man he had argued with at the meeting. He explained that after the assassination he saw photographs of Sirhan on television and in the newspapers. Sirhan resembled the man he had argued with so he had contacted

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

several newspapers. In the articles in the newspapers and on radio broadcasts, he requested that the man he had argued with come forward and identify himself. Duarte felt that because no one came forward that the man he argued with must have been Sirhan. Duarte concluded this interview by stating, "I would rather die than lose face."

Interviews with Duarte's Cuban Associates

Investigators interviewed Alberto Velazco, Frank Martinez, Frank Gutierrez, Albert Barco and Esteban Fernandez; all of whom were associated with Duarte's anti-Castro group and were present at the meeting on May 21, 1968. Investigators sought to find a witness close to Duarte who could clarify the conflict developing in the allegation.

Velazco's account of the Shinoff speech and Duarte's attempt to speak to the meeting was essentially the same as that of other witnesses. He recalled that the man who argued with Duarte had asked Duarte how much the C.I.A. was paying him. Velazco stated that the argument did not result in any physical contact between the two. He was shown photographs of Jalalipour and Sirhan. He said that Jalalipour looked like Sirhan but he identified the picture of Sirhan as being the man who argued with Duarte. Velazco stated that he was not sure why he identified Sirhan except that Duarte had told him that Sirhan was the man he had argued with.

Frank Martinez substantiated Velazco's support of Duarte's allegation. When shown the photographs of Jalalipour and Sirhan, he stated that they looked like the same person. When it was

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

explained which was which, Martinez then stated that the picture of Sirhan was a picture of the man who argued with Duarte at the meeting.

Frank Gutierrez was also present at the meeting. He had accompanied Duarte and the Cuban group but stated that he was not a close friend of Duarte. The others in the anti-Castro group, he stated, were close friends of Duarte. Gutierrez verified that an argument between Duarte and another male took place; however, when shown pictures of Sirhan and Jalalipour, he could identify neither of them as being the man involved in the argument. When told of Duarte's claim that Sirhan was the man he had argued with, Gutierrez stated, "I think Duarte's imagination is running away with him." He felt that Duarte was attempting to gain publicity for himself from the incident. Investigators had learned that Duarte had traveled to Florida and in the Los Angeles area to speak to groups about his confrontation with the man he identified as Sirhan.

Investigators believed that Duarte had not seen Sirhan at the meeting and that he had argued instead with Reza Jalalipour. Specific statements of witnesses made this conclusion the most probable. Each of the Persian group denied that they saw Sirhan and each identified Jalalipour as being the person arguing with Duarte. Duarte himself, when confronted personally with Ali Bouzmand, identified him as the man with Sirhan the night of the meeting. Bouzmand, Jalalipour's roommate, had described the events at the meeting and verified that Jalalipour had argued with Duarte.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Three other witnesses, Mr. Allen Pinson, Mr. Chuck Smith and Miss Alene Bullock, had been guests present at the meeting. Pinson and Smith both recalled that Jalalipour and Duarte had argued at the meeting. Miss Bullock recalled seeing Jalalipour and she remembered the argument, but she was not sure whether Jalalipour was the one arguing with Duarte.

The only verification of Duarte's allegation came from members of his own group. One associate of his, Frank Gutierrez, denied that Duarte had argued with Sirhan though he could not state that the other party was Jalalipour.

Polygraph Examination of Duarte

Investigators arranged a meeting between Duarte and Jalalipour. Jalalipour restated, for Duarte's benefit, that he had been at the May 21st meeting and that he had argued with Duarte during Duarte's anti-Castro speech. Duarte admitted that Jalalipour looked like the man he had argued with. Investigators advised Duarte of Frank Gutierrez's denial that Duarte had argued with Sirhan. Duarte stated, "No matter if all the Cubans that were with me say it was not Sirhan Sirhan, I still say it was Sirhan Sirhan." Duarte was asked at that time if he would submit to a polygraph examination. He agreed to do so.

Duarte was administered a polygraph examination by Lieutenant Hernandez on August 9, 1968, at the Scientific Investigation Division. At points where crucial key questions were asked during the examination, Duarte's responses indicated quite strongly that he was being untruthful. He was specifically

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

asked the following questions, to which his physiological responses at each salient point suggested that his answers were untruthful.

Q If I ask you questions about Sirhan, will you tell me the truth?

A Yes.

Q When you told the police that you and Sirhan almost had a fight, did you tell them the truth?

A Yes.

Q Can you truthfully say that you have seen or talked to Sirhan in person?

A Yes.

Q Have you lied to any of my questions about Sirhan?

A No.

Q Have you honestly ever seen Sirhan in person?

A Yes.

Q Was the person that argued with you at the meeting Sirhan?

A Yes.

Duarte was informed that his responses to many questions clearly indicated that he was either honestly mistaken or deliberately being untruthful. During the examination Duarte answered, "No," when asked whether the person who argued with him had pushed him with his hands. This conflicted with his earlier account of the incident.

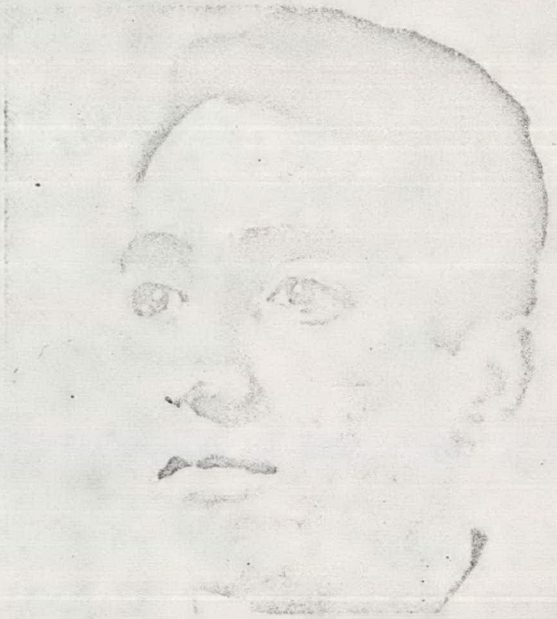
It was the examiner's opinion that Duarte had never seen, talked

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

with nor been in the same room with Sirhan. When informed of this conclusion, Duarte made a lengthy and broad rationalization as to why he had made his statements to the police. He stated that he must maintain the same statement that he had made prior to taking the examination. He indicated that this was necessary so that he would be made a liar in open court; that in this way the Communistic elements working within our society might possibly be found and made known to the public.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Sirhan B. Sirhan



Reza Jalalipour

Sirhan was alleged to have been involved in an argument at a Peace and Freedom Party meeting on May 21, 1968. Jose Duarte, an ex-Cuban Major and anti-Castro activist stated that Sirhan started an argument with him while he was speaking at the meeting. The investigation determined that Duarte mistook Sirhan for Reza Jalalipour, pictured on the right.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

On Wednesday, June 12, 1968, Mrs. Ruth Foster was interviewed by investigators. She stated that she was acquainted with a man named Michael Vejvodda whom she reported to be a militant and a member of the San Diego Minutemen. Mrs. Foster stated that she believed that Vejvodda and Sirhan were associated and that Vejvodda had a part in the assassination of Robert Kennedy.

The investigation determined that Michael Vejvodda was not associated with Sirhan nor was he connected with the assassination. The San Diego Police Department assisted this Department with the investigation.

Interview with Mrs. Foster

Foster stated during her interview that Vejvodda had visited her home shortly after the assassination of Martin Luther King. He was jubilant and told Foster that this assassination was only the beginning. He said that something big was going to happen on June 2, 1968, but he would not elaborate.

Foster stated that Vejvodda visited her home again on May 13, 1968, and he told her of a young man he had just met who lived in Pasadena. He said the young man "thinks the same way I do, and he is going to be good for the cause." Vejvodda showed Foster a map of the United States with most of the states outlined in red. He said that sometime in November those states would be blown up. This would occur when the Master Prophet who lived in Salt Lake City gave the order. He later changed

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the date to sometime after the first of the year. Vejvodda said the only safe place would be the Rocky Mountain Basin.

On June 10, 1968, after the Kennedy assassination, Vejvodda visited Foster's home again. He was very jubilant and stated that Vice-President Humphrey would be next. He told Foster that he was in San Diego when Kennedy was shot, and he received a phone call shortly after the shooting. The caller allegedly said, "It has been done; Kennedy has been shot." Vejvodda left Long Beach on June 11, 1968, the next day, and went to San Diego.

Foster told investigators that she believed that Vejvodda was a courier for a militant organization, probably the Minutemen. She allegedly saw him with large amounts of money and that he had told her it was his job to buy guns, ammunition and food for this organization. He allegedly said that he had purchased hand grenades and explosives in Los Angeles. Foster stated that Vejvodda was a health food addict and that she believed he met Sirhan while he was working in a health food store in Pasadena. She believed that the man Vejvodda stated that he met in Pasadena was Sirhan.

On June 19, 1968, Michael Vejvodda was arrested at his apartment in San Diego by the San Diego Police Department for burglary. His arrest came as a result of information provided by a confidential informant. Vejvodda was in possession of a carbine rifle and a large amount of ammunition when he was arrested.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

San Diego officers had been advised by Intelligence Division of the allegation made against Vejvodda. They assisted this Department by interviewing Vejvodda and determining that he was not involved with Sirhan. San Diego investigators determined Vejvodda's prior residences and information about his political background. This information was received from Vejvodda in the post-arrest interview by San Diego Police Lieutenant Cochran and Sergeant J. W. Kennedy.

Vejodda stated that he lived primarily in the Omaha-Minneapolis area until 1962. He lived in San Francisco and Long Beach, California, from February 1962 to September 1962. He traveled around the United States from 1963 to 1964 and lived in Long Beach from January 1964 to March 1967. From March 1967 to the date of the interview, he lived in San Diego.

Vejvodda admitted to some militant activities, citing an incident in Long Beach where he and others threw a brick through a window of the United Nations office window. He stated that his associates during that incident might have been members of the American Nazi Party. He readily admitted that he disliked Robert Kennedy and that he was at one time a member of the John Birch Society.

Vejvodda was asked if he would submit to a polygraph examination. Sergeant R. E. Prouty conducted the examination. The test sought to determine Vejvodda's involvement in San Diego burglaries as well as his involvement with Sirhan.

When Vejvodda was asked the following eight questions, there

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

was no deception noted.

Q Have you committed thefts in San Diego?

A No.

Q Do you belong to the American Nazi Party?

A No.

Q Do you belong to the Minutemen?

A No.

Q Do you belong to the Communist Party?

A No.

Q Do you now belong to the John Birch Society?

A No.

Q Have you lied to the investigating officers, besides what you have told me about?

A No.

Q Are you withholding any information that you know we we should find out?

A No.

There were slight indications of deception when Vejvodda answered the following question: "Have you ever conspired with anyone else to take another person's life?" He answered, "No."

Vejvodda's background was completely unrelated to Sirhan's. No association could be established between Sirhan and Vejvodda. The polygraph examination revealed that Vejvodda had never known Sirhan. Though the test showed that he was not associated with militant groups such as the American Nazi Party or the Minutemen, Vejvodda admitted previous contact with right-wing and militant

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

demonstration groups.

Investigator's determined that Mrs. Foster, the informant, had learned about Sirhan's employment in a Pasadena health food store from a television broadcast the night of the assassination. Long Beach Police Department Intelligence Division reported that Mrs. Foster was an informant for their Department but that her information was not alway reliable and that she occasionally made hysterical statements.

Investigators could not determine why Mrs. Foster believed that Vejvodda knew Sirhan, but they concluded that she magnified the statements Vejvodda had made to her.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

POSSIBLE ASSOCIATION WITH COMMUNISTS

On the day following the assassination of Robert Kennedy, information was received from a confidential and reliable source that a man named Walter S. Crowe, Jr. had been talking to people about his long-standing acquaintance with Sirhan Sirhan.

Crowe had told the informant that he had been with Sirhan a few weeks before the assassination and that the two had discussed Crowe's activities with the Communist Party. Walter Crowe subsequently told investigators that he feared that he might have influenced Sirhan's decision to kill Senator Kennedy because he attempted to interest Sirhan in the Communist movement.

The F.B.I. report of Crowe's remarks also described a 1961 Volkswagen sedan registered to Adel B. Sirhan, brother of Sirhan Sirhan, which was observed parked in the vicinity of Baces Hall, 1528 North Vermont, Los Angeles. The vehicle was observed on two occasions, December 5, 1963, and January 16, 1966, while meetings of the "Citizens Committee to Preserve American Freedoms" and the W.E.B. Du Bois Club were in progress at that location. The occupant of the vehicle was not seen on either occasion.

A confidential source also reported that members of the Southern California District Communist Party were greatly concerned that an association between Sirhan and the Communist Party might be created. This fear apparently developed after

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

remarks regarding Sirhan's possible Communist or left-wing associations were made on television by Mayor Yorty.

Investigators were responsible for ascertaining the validity of Sirhan's alleged association with Communists and to determine the extent to which Sirhan's relationship with Walter Crowe had influenced Sirhan's behavior. The investigation concluded that neither Sirhan nor his brother Adel were involved in left-wing meetings at the Baces Hall in Los Angeles. It was determined that Adel Sirhan was employed at The Fez Restaurant near Baces Hall, and his vehicle was parked there the nights he worked at the restaurant.

The investigation of Walter Crowe's association with Sirhan remained open at the time this report was completed. It was determined that Crowe had been closely associated with Sirhan for a few years while they were in school together. Crowe did relate to investigators that he felt responsible for instilling Sirhan with ideas which may have stimulated him to kill Senator Kennedy. Additionally, polygraph examination of Walter Crowe, Jr. caused investigators to believe that Crowe had possible knowledge that Sirhan was planning to attempt the assassination of Senator Kennedy. There was, however, no substantive evidence available to investigators to indicate that Crowe actively attempted to influence Sirhan in his plans to assassinate Kennedy. An account of the investigation into the allegation regarding Sirhan's association with Communists is reported below.

2025-RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Interviews and Polygraph Examination of Walter Crowe

On June 7, 1968 and June 14, 1968, F.B.I. special agents interviewed Walter S. Crowe, Jr. They determined that Crowe had known Sirhan and that the two had spent an evening together on May 2, 1968. Crowe related to the agents that he felt a certain responsibility for the death of Senator Kennedy.

On July 8, 1968, Walter Crowe was interviewed by investigators of this Department and a polygraph examination was administered. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the events that occurred on May 2. Crowe stated that he and Sirhan discussed the Arab-Israeli conflict and that Sirhan asked him questions about his political activities. Crowe told Sirhan that he had been an active member of the Communist Party in 1966 and 1967. Crowe stated that he might have tried to interest Sirhan in the Communist Party, but it appeared to him that Sirhan was "turned off" and the subject was dropped.

Crowe and Sirhan discussed Arab terrorism and "Al Fatah," an Arab terrorist group. Sirhan made statements that Hitler was a hero because of his anti-Jewish attitudes. Crowe stated that to the best of his knowledge Sirhan made no mention of assassinating, shooting or killing anyone; however, he was not sure whether Kennedy's name might not have been mentioned in some other context.

Crowe voluntarily agreed to submit to a polygraph examination, and he was told that he could ask questions during the test. A Zone Control Test was given containing twelve questions, seven

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

of which were irrelevant and five of which were relevant to the issue of the assassination.

During the course of the examination, Crowe emitted deceptive physiological responses at these three crucial key questions:

Q. If I ask you questions about Sirhan, will you tell me the truth?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. When you talked with Sirhan, did he tell you he was planning to shoot Senator Kennedy?

A. No.

Q. Did Sirhan ever tell you he was planning to shoot Kennedy?

A. No.

Lieutenant Hernandez, who was administering the test, told Crowe of the deception in his answers. Crowe reiterated that he had not discussed Kennedy with Sirhan. Crowe then said that Sirhan may have said something about Kennedy. Something like "Well, Walt, you know, Walter, if somebody should shoot that bastard." Crowe then said that he was afraid investigators might ask him to what degree he had influenced Sirhan. Crowe stated that because of Sirhan's actions and demeanor and the discussion of "Al Fatah" at their meeting, that Sirhan may have seen himself as a revolutionary who had decided to commit an act of terrorism.

At this point Crowe stated that he had decided not to continue the examination because he felt it against his interest to say anything further until he had time to consult with an attorney.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Ideally, more questions should have been asked to acquire sufficient comparative data. There was no opportunity to make this evaluation due to Crowe's decision not to continue. Based on the available polygrams, the only sound conclusion that could be made was that Sirhan made some statement to Crowe regarding his intent to kill Kennedy. Whether or not this was a casual remark or a detailed discussion could not be ascertained from the test. Crowe agreed to return on July 12 after consulting with an attorney.

On July 12, 1968, Crowe was reinterviewed by investigators of this Department. Little more could be elicited from Crowe as to whether he knew if Sirhan planned to kill Kennedy. Crowe stated definitely that he had not discussed shooting Kennedy with Sirhan at their meeting on May 2, 1968. The following was Crowe's version of the history of his association with Sirhan:

Relationship Between Crowe and Sirhan

Crowe and Sirhan were casual friends from the time that they were in grammar school together. Their casual friendship continued on to Pasadena City College where they both enrolled in an Arabic language class. They then became fairly close friends and frequently visited each other's home. Crowe stated that he was active in left-wing student groups at P.C.C.; but that Sirhan seemed uninterested, though sympathetic, when Crowe tried to interest him in joining the groups. This friendship continued until 1965 when Crowe enrolled at U.C.L.A. and moved to West Los Angeles.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Crowe did not see Sirhan during the time that he was attending U.C.L.A. Sirhan worked at various jobs during this period after leaving P.C.C. in 1965.

Crowe stated that after moving back into his parents' home in Pasadena in 1968, his mother suggested that he call Sirhan as a friendly gesture. She worked with Mrs. Mary Sirhan, Sirhan's mother, and was concerned about her. After many reminders Crowe called Sirhan and arranged an evening out. On May 2, 1968, Sirhan came to the Crowe home, and the two left together in Sirhan's vehicle, a Volkswagen sedan.

The two went to the Bob's Restaurant at 1616 East Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena; then to a "topless" bar on Foothill Boulevard; later to another "topless" bar called the "Black Cat"; and, they concluded the evening at Ernie's Taco Restaurant on Colorado Boulevard. Crowe stated that they were together for about two hours and that two other men went with them to the "topless" bars from Bob's Restaurant. Crowe could not identify the two men other than to state that they attended P.C.C. about the same time that he and Sirhan went there. A check of P.C.C. yearbooks did not assist Crowe in remembering the individuals.

Crowe stated that the conversation during the evening centered about their political beliefs and their career goals. Crowe later told his mother that he felt that Sirhan had seemed withdrawn and that he acted as if he resented Crowe's superior educational attainments.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

At the conclusion of his July 12 interview, Crowe had told investigators very little more about specific conversations with Sirhan. Investigators believed that Crowe was overly impressed with the possible impact that he had upon Sirhan's state of mind. Crowe had also stated that he felt that he had affected Sirhan during their school days at P.C.C. and that he felt that those experiences may have influenced Sirhan to kill Senator Kennedy. This appeared improbable to investigators.

Crowe obtained an attorney, John T. McTernan, who contacted investigators after Crowe's interview on July 12, 1968. He advised investigators that Crowe did not want to be interviewed further except in the presence of an attorney.

McTernan was identified as a member of the Communist Party by the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1952. Intelligence Division files have over 1000 separate reference cards on his activities.

Investigation of Crowe's Meeting with Sirhan

Investigators contacted various witnesses at locations which Crowe stated that he and Sirhan stopped at the night of May 2, 1968. The consensus of witnesses' statements was that they did not remember Sirhan or Crowe being in their establishment on May 2, 1968. Several of the witnesses recognized pictures of Sirhan from the newspaper accounts of the assassination but most had never seen Sirhan or Crowe in person.

Mr. Robert Roose, manager of Bob's Restaurant, remembered Sirhan from his days as a student at P.C.C. He had never seen Crowe

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

and had not seen Sirhan for about one year.

Miss Marilyn Hunt, a waitress at the "Hi Life" bar on Colorado Boulevard, was working at the bar on May 2, 1968. This bar was identified by Crowe as being one of the locations that he and Sirhan stopped. Hunt recalled Sirhan as an occasional patron who came to the bar alone. She did not recognize Walter Crowe, Jr.

Crow told investigators that he and Sirhan went to a "topless" bar called the "Black Cat" on Foothill Boulevard. There is only one bar in Pasadena called the "Black Cat" and it is not "topless." A "topless" bar called the "Cat-Patch Bar" is located on Foothill Boulevard.

Thomas Enlow, the owner of the "Black Cat," did not recognize Crowe and only recognized Sirhan from photographs from the newspapers. He stated that neither man had been in his bar.

Dennis Gorman, the manager, and three waitresses of the Cat-Patch Bar did not recall ever seeing Crowe or Sirhan in person, specifically on May 2, 1968. They did recognize Sirhan from newspaper photographs.

Mr. Fred Chibly, manager of Ernie Jr's Taco House in Pasadena, did not recognize photographs of Walter Crowe; however, he remembered Sirhan as a patron of the restaurant who came there with other Arab students.

Miss Marian Modjallaly, a cashier at the restaurant, attended P.C.C. at the same time as Sirhan but did not know him

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

personally. She recognized his photograph but did not recognize Crowe's photograph, and she could not recall either man ever being a patron of the restaurant.

Crowe subsequently told investigators that he told a friend, William Divale, about his meeting with Sirhan. Crowe told Divale about his previous friendship with Sirhan and that Sirhan seemed more disoriented than he had ever seen him. Such a gulf existed between their thoughts that Crowe had no desire to renew their old friendship. Divale reported to investigators that on the day of the assassination he recognized Sirhan's name and attempted to contact Crowe. He was unable to do so because he did not have Crowe's business phone number.

Investigation of Crowe's Background

Walter Crowe, Jr. was born in Pasadena, California, on August 3, 1945. Crowe and his family moved to 1300 Topeka, Pasadena, in 1948 and his parents still reside there. He graduated from John Muir High School in 1963; Pasadena City College in 1965; and, he obtained a bachelor's degree in history from U.C.L.A. in the spring of 1968.

Crowe's employment record was not lengthy, consisting of jobs as a parking lot attendant and laboratory assistant. Both jobs occurred while Crowe attended U.C.L.A. At the time of the investigation, Crowe was employed as a social worker with the Los Angeles County Welfare Department.

Investigators' concern about Crowe's association with Sirhan centered upon Crowe's open admission that he was a Communist.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Crowe's involvement with leftist groups apparently began while he attended P.C.C. He attempted to organize a chapter of the "Students for a Democratic Society," and he helped to form the "Ad Hoc Committee for Negro Rights." Neither organization was listed as a bona fide students club at the college according to the Administrative Dean at P.C.C.

Howard Gross was a roommate of Walter Crowe when both resided at a co-op housing project located at 500 Landfair Street, West Los Angeles. He shared the apartment with Crowe and a South Korean, Mr. Rak'heum Yun. Gross recalled that Crowe kept Marxist literature, a Russian flag and a Du Bois Club hat in his room. Crowe also expounded Communistic philosophy occasionally. Gross did not recognize a photograph of Sirhan and stated that he had never seen Sirhan at the apartment.

Mr. Yun stated during an interview that he never became friendly with Crowe when he lived in the apartment. Yun is an exchange student from South Korea and stated that he is an anti-Communist. He likewise had never seen Sirhan at the apartment.

Walter Crowe, Sr. and Margaret Crowe, parents of Walter Crowe, Jr., related to investigators that Sirhan and their son were close friends until their son went to U.C.L.A. The friendship was closest when both men were taking an Arabic language course together at P.C.C. The Crowes had no personal opinion regarding Sirhan's political attitudes and were surprised to learn that their son was a self-professed Communist. They dismissed the matter as an attempt by their son to express himself and gain

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

notoriety as an intellectual. They believed that their son's attitudes probably developed from a political science course taken in high school.

Investigators interviewed Mrs. Marilynn Brunton, Crowe's older sister, who was a teacher in Stockton, California. She recalled Sirhan's visits to the Crowe home and remembers him as a quiet, neat, well-mannered boy. The only political remarks she recalled him making were occasional anti-Israeli statements.

Investigation of Crowe's Associates

Investigators next began a check of the known associates of Walter Crowe to determine if they could establish further contacts between Sirhan and persons connected with left-wing activities or the Communist Party.

Thomas Good

Thomas Daniel Good was a fellow student of Sirhan and Crowe in high school and at Pasadena City College. Good was mentioned by Crowe as having possibly influenced Sirhan during their school years.

Darwin R. Russell, an eleventh grade United States History teacher of Sirhan and Good, remembered the two as good friends. He recalled that Good was frequently a problem in class. He felt that Good was very anti-government and the closest to being an anarchist that Russell had ever had in a class. He considered Good fully aware politically for his age and believed that Good could have influenced Sirhan had they been friends.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Good was interviewed on June 14, 1968, by F.B.I. investigators in the San Francisco Office of the F.B.I. Good's attorney, Aubrey Grossman, was present during the interview. Good remembered Sirhan from school but stated that he considered him an acquaintance rather than a friend. He visited the Sirhan home on three occasions and once went on a picnic with the Sirhan family. Good recalled last seeing Sirhan sometime in 1964, when both were attending P.C.C.

Good could not recall Sirhan expressing any political views except that he made anti-Israeli remarks. He never heard Sirhan make anti-Kennedy remarks, nor did he ever detect a strain of violence in him. Good recalled that Sirhan did associate with other Arab students at P.C.C. but that Sirhan appeared the most nationalistic of the Arabs he knew. Good stated that Walter Crowe seemed to be Sirhan's only friend.

Mrs. Margaret Crowe stated to investigators that Good and Crowe had been friends while the two were in school together. She stated that she did not believe they had seen one another since Good went to San Jose in 1965 to go to college.

Intelligence Division files show that Crowe and Good participated in an anti-Vietnam war demonstration on August 26, 1965, at the Biltmore Hotel.

William Divale

Crowe met William Divale when both were attending a history class at P.C.C. They discovered that they had an interest in Marxist theory and became close friends. They enrolled at

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

U.C.L.A. and shared an apartment together at 2540 South Barrington Avenue, Los Angeles, until July 1967. Divale stated to investigators that he was admittedly a Communist and that he recruited Crowe into the Communist Party. Crowe would only admit to investigators that he was a dues-paying member in the students club of the Communist Party. This subject said he recalled Crowe making reference to the Sirhan family in conversation, but he had never met any of the family in person.

Surveillance of Walter Crowe

On November 25, 1968, a surveillance was begun of Walter Crowe in an attempt to establish an undercover operator as a Crowe associate. The surveillance continued until December 7, 1968, when it was concluded with unsuccessful results.

The undercover operator attempted to follow Crowe from his home to local hangouts and bars. All attempts to follow Crowe were unsuccessful due to heavy traffic in the Pasadena area. Additional investigators joined the surveillance, but a completed contact could not be made by the operator with Crowe. It appeared to investigators that on one or two occasions Crowe purposely gauged traffic signal lights to prevent a successful surveillance. It was not known whether Crowe was simply being careful or if he knew that he was being followed.

Although the operation was unsuccessful, it was revealing insofar as it provided information as to Crowe's habits, activities and associates. Names and vehicles of previously unknown contacts of Crowe were processed for possible association with

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Sirhan or subversive activities.

Department Intelligence Division sources indicated an extensive record of Crowe's political activity from August 30, 1965, to June 1, 1968. Thirty-eight file cards from confidential sources showed a progression of association with Communist front organizations, such as the "Students for a Democratic Society" and the "W.E.B. Du Bois Club." Sources also indicated that Crowe was a member of the Communist Party while he attended U.C.L.A. Crowe was registered as a member of the Peace and Freedom Party at the time of the investigation.

A similar check of Crowe's known associates revealed that many had information cards in the file of Intelligence Division. Sirhan Sirhan's name did not appear anywhere in the Department's Intelligence Division file. A further check of the known associates was made of the F.B.I. intelligence files. A check of Sirhan's name there proved negative.

A total of 148 names of possible known associates of Walter Crowe, many with left-wing and Communist backgrounds, were checked through local, state and federal intelligence files for an association with Sirhan. The results in all cases were negative.

To date no Communist or left-wing connection with Crowe, any of his associates, or other unrelated subversive elements has been established with Sirhan Sirhan. Due to the unsatisfactory results of Crowe's polygraph examination and the reticence of witnesses to make complete statements during the investigation,

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the truth or falsity of Sirhan's possible connections with subversive elements could not be completely established.

Du Bois Club Allegation Cleared

An investigation into the possibility of Sirhan's involvement with the Du Bois Club was prompted by information found in Los Angeles Police Department intelligence files. The information involved a vehicle registered to Adel Sirhan, brother of the accused assassin, which had been observed parked in front of Baces Hall at 1528 North Vermont on the same night that a Du Bois Club meeting was held at the same address.

Subsequent investigation disclosed that Adel Sirhan was employed at The Fez Restaurant at 1508 North Vermont, which is located next door to this meeting hall. Examination of the records of the restaurant revealed that Adel Sirhan was working on the night of the meeting in question, January 16, 1966.

William T. Divale, former roommate of Walter Crowe, Jr., was also contacted in this matter by investigators. He stated that he was the former head of the Los Angeles Central W.E.B. Du Bois Club. He stated that Sirhan Sirhan was not a member of this organization.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT WITH ARABIC GROUPS

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING THE FEZ RESTAURANT

There were two allegations involving the Fez Restaurant. One, that Sirhan B. Sirhan often frequented The Fez and talked quite openly about politics and his political beliefs. Second, it has been alleged that Sirhan became angered by a female in The Fez and cut her with a broken bottle.

In an effort to determine the validity of these allegations, investigators interviewed the owners, the employees, and patrons of the Fez. The investigation that follows revealed that Sirhan Sirhan had only been in the Fez on one or two occasions and that Sirhan was not the individual involved in the incident with the broken bottle. Information gained at the Fez aided investigators in determining that Sirhan had not attended meetings of the W.E.B. DuBois Club in a building near the Fez.

The Investigation

The Fez Restaurant, located at 1508 North Vermont, is co-owned and managed by two brothers, Louis and Fred Shelby. There are two rooms that are used by the patrons. The restaurant caters to Shriner groups, church groups, and numerous school district meetings. It is a family type restaurant downstairs, and the dress in semi-formal. The upstairs room is informal and used by students and young adults. Lou Shelby stated that the clientele at his restaurant is composed of 70 percent non-Arabian individuals and 30 percent of individuals of Arabian descent. Shelby stated that activities in the upstairs room were directed more towards drinking and entertainment and the customers were

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

predominantly Arabian and other foreign nationality students. Entertainment is supplied by the patrons and one or two musicians.

After the Kennedy assassination, the upstairs room was open only on Friday and Saturday nights. Lou Shelby stated that because of numerous arguments and fights, he has been forced to close it except on the weekends. Investigators ascertained that the majority of the political and religious arguments and fights at The Fez took place upstairs.

Louis Shelby Interview

Lou Shelby disclosed that his initial contact with the Sirhan family came through his connection with a former employee, Adel Sirhan. His records revealed that Adel Sirhan was employed periodically as a musician from January 1, 1962, through June, 1967.

Shelby disclosed that Adel Sirhan, worked night hours at his club. He stated to the best of his knowledge, Adel Sirhan would usually park his vehicle on North Vermont Avenue or in a nearby parking lot.

Shelby stated that Adel Sirhan could best be described as an extremely practical pragmatist who was positively not connected with any communist causes. Shelby stated that he felt certain that Adel Sirhan was in no way connected with the W.E.B. DuBois Clubs of America (DCA) which he understood held meetings in a hall located north of The Fez Restaurant. Shelby continued that he knew of no other member of the Sirhan family that was connected with the DCA.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Shelby disclosed that Adel Sirhan terminated his employment at The Fez in June of 1967, due to personal reasons involving Adel's feeling that he would be looked down on for marrying a girl who was a dancer. Shelby stated that Adel Sirhan was at that time going with a Mylene Kay, an exotic dancer at The Fez.

Shelby stated that Adel Sirhan never discussed politics. He was not the serious type. He believed in having a good time. He had many girl griends while working at The Fez.

Shelby disclosed that Sirhan Sirhan came to The Fez on one or two occasions but at no time created an incident there.

Shelby stated that his only detailed conversation with Sirhan Sirhan occurred during Easter 1968, when Shelby and his family were traveling to the homes of family friends. He stated that he and Sirhan B. Sirhan engaged in a lengthy political discussion at the Sirhan family home. Sirhan was interested in his opinions because he had graduated from U.C.L.A. with a Political Science degree and had completed a year and a half of graduate work at U.C. at Berkeley, specializing in International Relations and Middle East politics.

Shelby stated that he and Sirhan had a heated argument about the United States Government and its policies in the Mid-East. Sirhan was violently against the United States and was a follower of Egyptian President Nasser and his policies and beliefs.

He and Sirhan Sirhan discussed the problems of youth in America, the hippie movement, and civil disobedience. Shelby stated that

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Sirhan was definitely unhappy with "the establishment" and was extremely politically oriented. His primary concern was in connection with the Israeli-Arab problem.

Sirhan was concerned about America and the direction it was taking as governed by its foreign policy. Shelby stated that Sirhan talked to him of how the American foreign policy affected Americans as individuals and advised him that he felt conclusively that the American foreign policy was responsible for the establishment of the State of Israel.

Shelby advised that the word "frustrated" would best describe Sirhan Sirhan. Sirhan expressed feelings that Arabs, as well as nations, were powerless to do anything about the worldwide Zionist plot. Shelby advised that he would describe Sirhan Sirhan as confused, idealistic, and somewhat "left wing" in his political philosophies.

Shelby stated that he also knew Sirhan's brother, Sharif Sirhan, who recently had been visiting The Fez once or twice a week.

Interview With Frederick Shelby

Frederick Shelby advised officers that he is a co-owner of The Fez Restaurant. Fred Shelby stated that to his knowledge during the five years that Adel Sirhan worked at The Fez, Sirhan Sirhan had been to the restaurant on one occasion. Shelby stated that Adel Sirhan introduced him to Sirhan Sirhan and Mary Sirhan at that time.

Shelby told investigators that during Adel Sirhan's employment at The Fez, he was an outstanding and sincere worker.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Zareh Boujigian Denied Holding Political Conversations With Sirhan

It was alleged that Zareh Boujigian, an assistant manager at The Fez, knew Sirhan Sirhan and that he had numerous political conversations with Sirhan.

Boujigian related to officers that he worked approximately three or four years at The Fez as an assistant to Lou Shelby. Boujigian was introduced to Sirhan Sirhan through Adel Sirhan. Boujigian learned from Adel Sirhan that Sirhan Sirhan wanted to be a jockey. Boujigian had seen Sirhan three or four times since they were introduced. He saw Sirhan at Santa Anita Race Track in 1966. He had never discussed politics or political beliefs with Sirhan and had, in fact, never had any lengthy conversations with him.

Boujigian stated he had had numerous conversations with Sharif Sirhan prior to and after the assassination. During these conversations, Sharif had talked about his frustration with Robert Kennedy and his policies. On one occasion Boujigian asked Sharif why Sirhan shot Kennedy, and Sharif answered that, in his opinion, Sirhan had become so agitated by Kennedy's pro-Israeli tendencies that he took it upon himself to kill him.

Interview with Mike Siam Regarding Sirhan Fighting in The Fez

Mike Siam was employed as the manager of The Fez Restaurant during the time Adel Sirhan worked there as a musician. He met the whole Sirhan family at the time Sirhan's sister died.

On Monday, December 26, 1967, Siam opened The Fez Restaurant for the day. During the evening there was a dispute between a female, Jamila Sellem, and a male whom he positively identified

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

as Ahmad Yamni. Siam told investigators that he was in the upper room of The Fez and an argument ensued between Sellem and Yamni. Yamni broke a beer glass and attempted to strike Sellem with it. Siam intervened and stopped the fight. The police were not called.

Siam told investigators that Yamni has frequented The Fez Restaurant on numerous occasions. Many times he had been mistaken for one of the Sirhan brothers as he closely resembles Sharif Sirhan. Siam said this is positively the person that had the fight with Sellem, and no member of the Sirhan family was involved in this altercation.

Siam recalled that Sirhan Sirhan came into The Fez on only one occasion. That was during the time Adel Sirhan was employed as a musician. Sirhan Sirhan sat by himself except when Adel Sirhan would sit with him during the band breaks.

Siam had seen and talked to Sirhan Sirhan several times during the year 1967, when Sirhan was employed at the Santa Anita Race Track. He stated that he saw him around Christmas 1967, when he had dinner at the Sirhan home. During this visit to the family home, he had no discussion whatsoever with Sirhan, and he found him to be a very quiet, serious individual who spoke very little.

On the occasions when he saw Sirhan at the racetrack in 1967, their only discussions were concerning either horses or their families and that they never at anytime discussed any politics or ideologies. The visits at the racetrack always occurred on

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Saturdays. He said that Sirhan never impressed him as having a violent nature and that he seemed to be a quiet, reserved individual who had always been polite and well mannered.

Siam advised that he had not seen Sirhan since the Christmas season of 1967, when he had dinner with the Sirhan family, but he occasionally saw Adel and Sharif, two of Sirhan's brothers, when they visited The Fez Restaurant from time to time.

Jamila Sellem Account of Attack in The Fez

Jamila Sellem has been a regular customer of The Fez Restaurant. She was an acquaintance of Adel Sirhan and was introduced to one of his brothers on one occasion, but she could not identify which one. She stated that in the latter part of December 1967, or the first part of January 1968, she was in the upstairs room of The Fez Restaurant with a group of people. She noticed a person whom she thought was Adel Sirhan who was drunk and in a very stuperous condition. This person approached her and asked her for a date. She stated, "No, I don't want to go out with you." This person asked, "Why?" and she stated, "Because I am Jewish and you are an Arabian." With this, the unidentified person broke a glass and lunged at her becoming violently angry. At this time Mike Siam, the manager of The Fez Restaurant, intervened and prevented the attack. Everybody calmed down, and the police were not called. Mike Siam identified the man as Ahmad Yamni. Sellem told investigators that she could not positively identify the attacker.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Phyllis Young Interview

Phillis H. Young was a cocktail waitress and part-time dancer formerly employed by The Fez Restaurant. The day after the Kennedy assassination she resigned her position because as she stated, "I was in fear of my life after what happened the night of the assassination." Mrs. Young related that she was working in The Fez the night of the assassination. Mike Siam and a man by the name of Sam were bartenders on duty that night. When Mike and Sam heard of the assassination, they danced and sang. One of them stated, "It's a great thing that Kennedy has been shot."

Mrs. Young stated she is of Jewish descent, and as long as she had worked at The Fez, which is about two and a half years, there has always been a certain amount of friction between her and the Arab employees. Young does not understand Arabic, and because it was spoken frequently by the Arab patrons, she cannot state whether or not politics was discussed at the restaurant.

Mrs. Young denied that she knew Sirhan Sirhan and to her knowledge had never met him.

Investigators asked Young about the alleged fight between Jamila Sellem and an unidentified male Arabian which took place at The Fez Restaurant in late December of 1967, or early January of 1968. She told them she was not aware of that particular fight, but there had been several arguments and fights in The Fez Restaurant while she was employed there and the police were not usually called.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Elsa Butler Report of Reaction to News of Shooting

Elsa Marie Butler worked as a belly dancer at The Fez. Many of the employees and customers have been vociferous in their animosity towards Israel.

On the night of June 4, 1968, Miss Butler came to work at 8 p.m. At about 1 a.m., June 5, 1968, customers entering the restaurant mentioned that Senator Kennedy had been shot. There is no television nor radio in this restaurant, and all information obtained was furnished by customers. When Butler verified the fact that a shooting had taken place, she became very despondent and terminated her act. At about the same time, she observed the manager of the restaurant, Mike Siam, who appeared to be very elated about the news. She said that he was clapping his hands and encouraging singing in Arabic. She could not understand the meaning but noted that the song ended with the Arabic work "Yehudi" which means "Jewish." In addition, Siam stated in English that he was glad that the shooting had occurred and made a statement that he believed the Jewish people had done this.

Miss Butler said that although a number of Jordanians have frequented this restaurant, she has never known Sirhan Sirhan to be a customer. Butler expressed the opinion that because of the intense nationalism expressed by the customers and employees, the atmosphere of The Fez had been most conducive to fights.

Joyce Stone Report of Meeting Sirhan Brothers

Joyce Cecelia Stone telephoned investigators and requested an interview. She had become acquainted with members of the Sirhan

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

family at The Fez Cafe. Mrs. Stone said that approximately five years ago she met Adel Sirhan when he was employed at The Fez as a musician. To the best of her knowledge, she was introduced to Sharif Sirhan in October or November of 1967 and saw him at The Fez approximately two or three times. Sometime during the fall of 1967, she was introduced to Sirhan Sirhan. She isn't sure how many times she saw him in The Fez but states it may have been only once.

During the five years she knew Adel Sirhan, she never knew him to discuss politics. She never heard Sharif Sirhan speak politically and is of the opinion he did not frequent The Fez. She was there on many occasions and seldom saw him. She stated that she had casual conversations with Sirhan Sirhan, that he was a moderate beer drinker, never loud nor boisterous, he never danced, he made no mention of his physical health, his employment, and he never spoke of his family. On one occasion Sirhan became angry at the United States for assisting Israel in the last Egypt-Israel War. Sirhan claimed that the United States provided radio cover from United States ships for the benefit of Israel. This is the only mention Sirhan ever made to her of a political nature.

Results of the Investigation

Investigators, through their interviews, were able to place Sirhan B. Sirhan in the restaurant on only one occasion. This was in 1966 or 1967, during Adel Sirhan's employment. Sirhan, accompanied by his mother, Mary Sirhan, apparently came for the

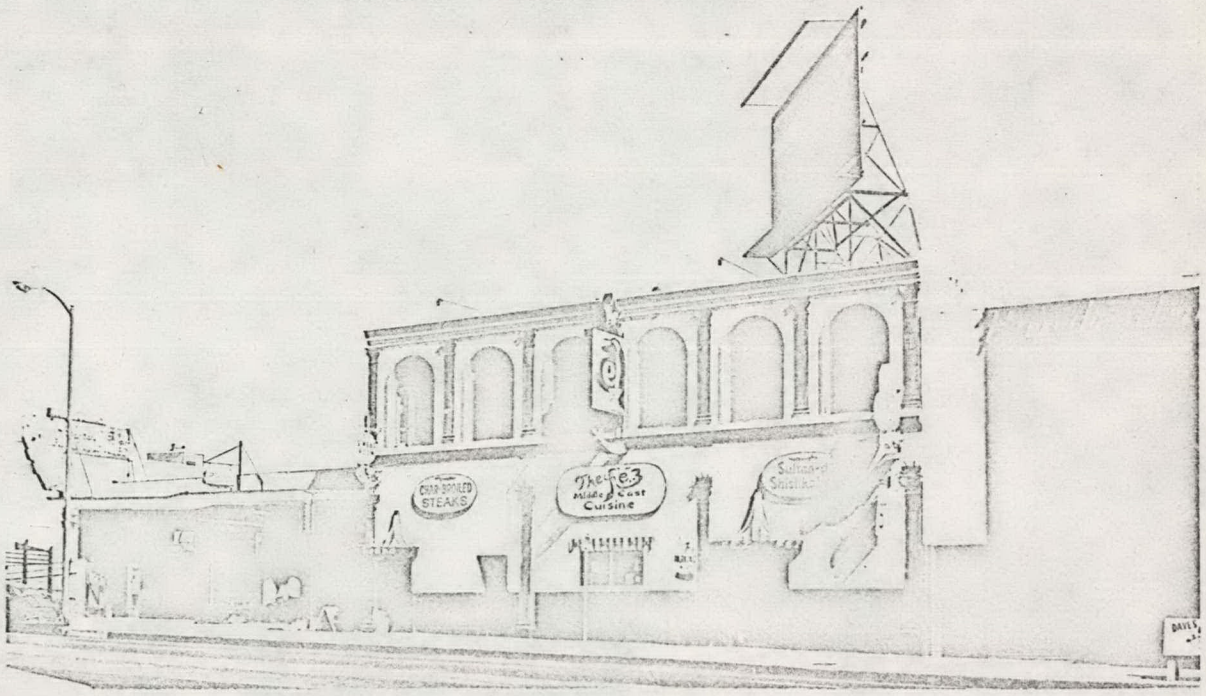
2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

purpose of watching Adel play the oud. Investigators determined that Sirhan was not involved or even on the premises during the alleged altercation.

Investigators have been unable to discover any evidence of a conspiracy originating at The Fez Restaurant and have found no connection between The Fez Restaurant and Sirhan B. Sirhan regarding a conspiracy.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Press releases after the arrest of Sirhan referred to Sirhan's vehicle which was observed parked near the Baces Hall (white two-story building, left side of upper picture) where left-wing groups allegedly held meetings. The investigation into the allegation revealed that the vehicle belonged to Sirhan's brother, Adel, who worked at the nearby Fez Restaurant (lower picture). Neither Sirhan nor Adel Sirhan attended the meetings held at the Baces Hall.



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Sirhan B. Sirhan attended Pasadena City College from September, 1963 until May 18, 1965. During this period Sirhan allegedly belonged to two Arab groups on campus, "The International Club" and the "Organization of Arab Students in the United States of America and Canada."

It was determined that Sirhan was involved with one of the groups and not the other.

Organization of Arab Students

Kanan Abdul Latif Hamzeh first met Sirhan around 1965, while he (Hamzeh) was enrolled at Pasadena City College. While at the college, he was president of the Organization of Arab Students in the United States of America and Canada, with headquarters at 2929 Broadway, New York City, New York, 10025. This organization was formed in 1952 to assist Arab students in adjusting to academic life away from home. Sharif Sirhan, who was a student at Pasadena City College and a member of the above organization, introduced Sirhan Sirhan to Hamzeh. Sirhan became a de facto member of this organization, but did not pay dues to the parent organization. Although active, the group was not recognized by Pasadena City College since such organizations are prohibited. It was also not recognized as a formal local organization by the parent organization in New York City since the college did not give it authorization to operate. In spite of the above technicalities, Hamzeh stated this organization operated as all organizations of its kind on other campuses.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

While Sirhan Sirhan was a member of the Organization of Arab Students he would volunteer for some of the less desirous work for preparing meetings. He set up the chairs, arranged for a tape recorder, and procured various refreshments for the group.

Hamzeh had helped Sirhan Sirhan with some math problems and Sirhan had visited his apartment to tape some Arabian music. He recalled Sirhan was accompanied by one of his brothers and a sister. In conversations with several of the Sirhan brothers Hamzeh learned that Sirhan Sirhan had constant arguments with them as well as his mother. He was not told what the arguments were about, but surmised they were strictly of a family nature. He recalled that Sirhan and one other brother stated they were unhappy living in the United States. Hamzeh believes that both brothers were unable to adjust to the social and political atmosphere in this country. When he knew Sirhan he did not think that he was capable of any major crime since school seemed to be foremost in his mind. At that time Sirhan did not appear to be interested in politics. But, Hamzeh felt that Sirhan could easily have been influenced by any Arab Nationalist cause since he had intense feelings against the Israelis.

Hamzeh did not know the identity of Sirhan's associates. However, he believed that Sirhan was more forward than most Arabian students with respect to meeting female companions. He would often talk to them in the student lounge at Pasadena City College. He does not know of Sirhan's other interests and he was surprised to read in the newspaper his interest in philosophy.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Hamzeh stated that he must have changed since their acquaintance three years before.

Safouh Al-Akhtass was interviewed by F.B.I. investigators and stated that he was a national officer of the Organization of Arab Students, whose headquarters are located in New York. He stated that the organization has seven national officers and approximately one hundred and twenty local chapters. All local chapters which are affiliated with the national office have their membership on file with them. A few of the local chapters are not affiliated with the national organization.

Al-Akhtass contacted both the national and Pasadena chapter presidents who advised him that they had no record or knowledge of Sirhan being connected with the OAS.

Fawwaz H. Zedan is currently chairman of the Pasadena chapter of the Organization of Arab Students. He described it as a social group largely composed of Arab graduates from Pasadena City College. His chapter is not recognized or affiliated with the college. Zedan stated that Sirhan was not a member of the Pasadena chapter of the OAS.

Bassam Houalla, the chairman of the OAS chapter at California State College at Los Angeles, stated that Sirhan was not a member of his chapter and was not on their mailing list.

The International Club

Mrs. Alice Mothershead, Director, Community Liaison Center, Pasadena City College, was in charge of the activities of the

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

International Club on the campus. She stated her department was a volunteer service group, and she was not a part of the school faculty. To her knowledge, there was no Organization of Arab Students, or any clubs recognized on the campus comprised of foreign students of one nationality. She had checked her records and had no record nor knowledge of Sirhan Sirhan belonging to the International Club.

Allegations of Membership in Additional Organizations

Ex-postman, Robert J. Licher, reported delivering mail to the Sirhan residence from an organization named the Arab Student League. He described the material as pro-Nasser, which in his mind made it pro-Communist. Licher had not delivered mail to the Sirhan home for one and one half years at the time of the shooting.

Investigators were unable to locate records of an organization named the Arab Student League on or off the Pasadena City College campus. It does not appear in the Intelligence Division Subversive files.

Michael Slomich, one time student at P.C.C. and friend of Walter Crowe Jr., stated that he may have seen Sirhan at a meeting in the Syrian-Lebanese Cultural Center in Hollywood. Telephone company and Intelligence Division files do not reflect any location by this name.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

ARAB PHARMACIST SAYEGH

Mr. Spear S. Sayegh came to the attention of this investigation when a witness overheard him discussing the Sirhan case on the telephone at his place of business. Mr. Sayegh is an Arab and is active in the Los Angeles Arabic community.

Investigation into the matter revealed that the telephone call to Sayegh was probably a request from Mr. John Lawrence, in New York, for Sayegh to assist in Sirhan's defense. Indications are that the witness overheard an innocent conversation and was mistaken in the inference which she made. The following is an account of that investigation.

Mrs. Lois Garner entered the GPS Pharmacy in Temple City on approximately June 7, 1968, and observed the pharmacist on the telephone. She stated she overheard him say, "But, I had to. We will have to call an emergency meeting. We must band together and stand behind him." The pharmacist observed Mrs. Garner and said, "I have to go now," and he hung up the phone. Mrs. Garner believed the conversation was related in some way to Sirhan Sirhan and reported the incident to the Department.

On July 8, 1968, F.B.I. Agent Lloyd Johnson interviewed Spear Sayegh at his place of business. A subsequent interview was made by Department investigators on July 19, 1968. Mr. Sayegh stated that he had never met Sirhan Sirhan and knew nothing of him. He stated that he was acquainted with most Arabs in the Los Angeles area and that he had met Adel Sirhan when he had seen him as a musician at the Shaker's Oasis Bar and The Fez

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Bar. Sayegh has been president of the American Jordanian Society, which he formed, for two years. He is presently president of the United States Organization of Medical and Educational Needs. The organizations are both charitable and not political in nature.

Sayegh stated that he and most Arabs of his acquaintance had warm feelings for both John Kennedy and Robert Kennedy. He said that it was the opinion of many Arabs that Zionists had induced Sirhan to assassinate Robert Kennedy. He personally did not have evidence of this belief.

Sayegh does not recall the specific conversation Mrs. Garner referred to, but stated that it could have been any number of people due to his involvement with different organizations. He did recall several calls from Mr. John Lawrence requesting that he (Sayegh) arrange a defense for Sirhan. Sayegh stated that he declined because he thought that Sirhan was guilty and should be executed. Lawrence was identified as the executive secretary of the "Organizing Committee for Clemency for Sirhan" in New York City.

Mrs. Leila Sayegh's statement was essentially the same as her husband's. She also stated that she had never known or seen Sirhan Sirhan.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

CONSPIRACIES INFERRED FROM SIRHAN'S ACTIVITIES

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

PURCHASE OF THE MURDER WEAPON BY SIRHAN

When the investigation into the history of the murder weapon established that Munir Sirhan had purchased the gun from George Erhard, the possibility of a conspiracy between Sirhan and his brother was raised. The investigation had determined that Munir Sirhan had arranged for the purchase from Erhard, a co-employee, at Nash's Department Store. When first interviewed, Munir Sirhan denied that he had purchased the gun; he contended instead that he had only been present when the gun was purchased by Sirhan.

The investigation concluded, however, that Munir Sirhan had, in fact, purchased the gun. This conclusion was based on the statements of Erhard and another witness, William Price, and the results of a polygraph examination administered to Munir Sirhan. Munir Sirhan was made aware of the deception in the results of the polygram but refused to change his story. Munir Sirhan's reluctance to admit that he had purchased the gun may be explained by the fact that he was an alien. Such an admission would have placed him in the position of having committed a felony.

The investigation into this aspect of the case remains open. The District Attorney's Office has decided to delay the decision to determine whether any action should be taken regarding Munir Sirhan's possible illegal possession of a weapon. Investigators have no substantive evidence which links the purchase of the gun by Munir with any guilty knowledge on his part of Sirhan's intention to kill Kennedy.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

George Erhard Account

George Erhard identified Munir Sirhan, whom he knew only as "Joe," as a co-employee at Nash's Department Store in Pasadena. He gave the following account of the purchase of the gun.

The co-employee, "Joe," had learned from other employees that Erhard was a collector of guns. In early January 1968, "Joe" had asked Erhard if he had a gun for sale which could be used for hunting. "Joe" specified that it be a handgun for under $50. Erhard told him that he had no guns for sale at that time.

In February, Erhard needed some money to work on his car. He offered to sell an Iver Johnson .22 caliber pistol to "Joe," and "Joe" asked to see it. Erhard brought the gun to work and showed it to "Joe." "Joe" told him that he did not have the money to buy the gun at that time and asked him to meet him at another location later that same day.

Erhard and a friend, William Price, went to an unknown location on Howard Street in Pasadena at about 5:30 p.m. They were met by "Joe" and another man. Erhard and "Joe" bargained over the price for the gun, and Erhard finally agreed to $25.

During the bargaining, Price had been talking to the other man. When the deal was made, "Joe" borrowed six dollars from the other man. The two spoke to one another in a foreign language during part of the conversation. Erhard then gave the pistol to "Joe," Munir Sirhan.

William Price verified Erhard's account and positively identified

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the other man with Munir Sirhan as being Sirhan Sirhan. He stated that Sirhan did hold the gun at one point in the meeting but that Munir bought the gun. Erhard could not positively identify Sirhan Sirhan from photographs. He stated that the man with Munir had been standing away from him, talking to Price.

Munir Sirhan's Account

Munir Sirhan stated to investigators that he had not purchased the gun, but that Sirhan had. He stated that George Erhard had been in his home sometime early in 1968. Erhard was introduced to Sirhan Sirhan, and while they were listening to some Arabic records a conversation took place regarding guns. Sometime later, Munir stated, Sirhan bought a gun from Erhard.

On June 25, 1968, a polygraph examination was administered to Munir Sirhan to determine his truthfulness regarding the gun transaction and whether or not George Erhard had ever been in the Sirhan home. Munir Sirhan's responses to questions indicated he was being untruthful. The test indicated that Erhard had never been in the Sirhan home, nor had he ever been introduced to Sirhan Sirhan. The test also indicated that Munir Sirhan was the person who purchased the gun.

Subsequent to being interviewed, Munir Sirhan admitted that he was lying when he said that Erhard had been inside his home. When he was told the results of the examination indicated he purchased the gun, Munir Sirhan changed part of his story. He

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

corrected himself and stated he had asked Erhard if he had any guns for sale and that eventually Erhard showed him the .22 caliber revolver (.22 caliber Iver Johnson, cadet model, eight shot, serial #H53725). He examined the gun in the parking lot of Nash's Department Store, 141 East Colorado Street, Pasadena. After examining the gun, he told Erhard he did not have sufficient money to purchase the gun at that time. He asked Erhard to bring the gun to the corner of El Molino and Howard Streets in Pasadena later that evening and told him that he would have the money to purchase the gun. Munir Sirhan stated that he and Sirhan were together when Erhard came to deliver the gun. Munir Sirhan then stated that Sirhan Sirhan had been the one who bought the gun. Munir Sirhan was again informed that the polygraph test showed that he had actually purchased the gun. Munir Sirhan refused to change his story.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The Allegation

The search of Sirhan's vehicle produced a sales receipt for .22 caliber ammunition sold by the Lock, Stock 'N Barrel Gun Shop. The clerk who made the sale was identified as Larry Arnot. He stated to investigators that Sirhan was with two other men at the time he purchased the ammunition. After an extensive investigation Arnot admitted that he could not remember Sirhan or the ammunition sale. He could only state that the sales receipt was in his handwriting.

The Investigation

Mr. Arnot was interviewed by investigators on June 15, 1968. He stated that he remembered selling Sirhan the ammunition on June 1, 1968, at approximately 3 p.m., and verified it was he who wrote the sales slip. He added that Sirhan came into the shop with two other men who were of similar appearance. Sirhan ordered two boxes of mini-mags, and one of the other two ordered a box of conventional .22 caliber ammunition. He did not know if the three men arrived in a vehicle or not.

Arnot viewed the photographs of the Sirhan brothers and the look-alikes, and he identified Sirhan Sirhan as the one who bought the mini-mag ammunition. He was unable to identify the man who asked for the conventional ammunition but stated the third man in the party looked "possibly" like Munir Sirhan. He stated that the two men who ordered ammunition both gave him money, but he didn't know the amounts.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Investigators from the Federal Bureau of Investigation reinterviewed Arnot on June 16, 1968. At that time he repeated the same basic story but added that he had engaged in a conversation with the three men about rabbit hunting. He stated that he could not state which one paid for the ammunition. Arnot viewed a group of photographs and selected the likeness of Sharif Sirhan as "bearing a strong resemblance" to the one who bought the conventional ammunition, but he could not make a positive identification.

Mrs. Donna Herrick, wife of the gun shop owner, was interviewed on June 16, 1968. She reported that she was not at the shop on June 1st. She volunteered the information that she had observed Sirhan in the gun shop on April 3, 1968, with two other foreign-appearing males. One of the men, whom she identified as Sirhan, requested a box of .357 caliber armor-piercing ammunition. She stated that he spoke with a very distinct foreign accent, and she had a great deal of difficulty understanding him. She did not see a weapon in the possession of any of the men, and they did not mention .22 caliber ammunition. She stated that the other two men bore a strong resemblance to Adel and Munir Sirhan.

Mr. Benjamin Herrick, owner of the Lock, Stock 'N Barrel Gun Shop, was interviewed on June 17, 1968. He stated that when he discussed with his wife the events that she had reported, he recalled the incident. He thought it was approximately April 15, 1968, and recalled assisting his wife during the transaction. He

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

told the men that he didn't stock that type of ammunition. He didn't recall whether the three men had a vehicle or not.

Herrick reported that he observed three men talking with Larry Arnot the afternoon of June 1, 1968. He only observed the three from the rear while glancing over his shoulder, and he thought they were the same three who were in the shop on April 15th. He stated that he could not identify Sirhan as ever being in the store because observing Sirhan's photograph on television created some confusion in his mind as to when or if he had ever seen Sirhan. He was also unable to identify Adel, Sharif, Saidallah or Munir Sirhan as ever having been in the store.

Investigators contacted Nash's Department Store in Pasadena and learned that Munir Sirhan worked at that location on June 1, 1968. He clocked in at 8:57 a.m., out at 12:35 p.m., back in at 1:15 p.m., and out at 5:38 p.m. Joanna Melichek, a store employee, remembered seeing him at the department store just prior to quitting time on June 1st.

Requested Show Up of Sirhan Brothers

On July 15, 1968, investigators contacted Sirhan's Defense Attorney, Russell Parsons, and requested him to arrange a show up so that the people in the gun shop could view the Sirhan brothers. Parsons stated he would take it under advisement.

When Parsons did not contact investigators, they met with Mary Sirhan and two of her sons, Adel and Munir, on July 25, 1968. The investigators attempted to secure their cooperation for a show up. Mary Sirhan stated she was against it, and Adel agreed

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

with her. Munir stated he would cooperate, adding that he had nothing to hide because he was working that day. The Sirhans decided to seek Parson's advice before answering the request.

On July 28, 1968, Parsons was interviewed at his law offices, and the request for a show up was repeated. He stated that he would not make the decision; that he would have to take it up with his associate who was to enter the case in two weeks.

Polygraph Examinations

Mr. Arnot was administered a polygraph examination by Lieutenant Hernandez on August 5, 1968, and he was questioned about the statements that he made to investigators during earlier interviews. His physiological responses, as recorded by the polygraph, indicated that he could not honestly remember seeing anyone in the gun shop with Sirhan and that he does not actually remember seeing Sirhan on that day. Arnot was confronted with the results of the polygraph examination and stated to investigators that he had lied about remembering Sirhan being in the gun shop.

Mrs. Donna Herrick was administered a polygraph examination by Lieutenant Hernandez on August 6, 1968. She was questioned about her statements that she had seen Sirhan in the gun shop during April when he attempted to buy armor-piercing ammunition. During the examination her physiological tracings indicated a pattern of deception at the points where key questions were asked. The test pointed up the conclusion that Mrs. Herrick was either honestly mistaken at the time of her first interview, realized it at the time of the test but would not acknowledge the fact

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

or was deliberately being untruthful when she stated that she had observed Sirhan in the store.

She was advised of the results of the examination and interrogated extensively regarding her statements. She made broad rationalizations and stated she could have been confused but refused to admit to lying to the investigators.

Conclusions

The investigation showed the allegation that Sirhan was accompanied by two other men at the time he purchased the ammunition to be unfounded. The man who made the initial allegation admitted lying; and the owner of the gun shop, who at first offered supporting testimony, admitted that he simply didn't know. Each of the witnesses who reported seeing Sirhan qualified their statements to such a degree that there was doubt in their own minds that they remembered seeing Sirhan.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY GUN CLUB INVESTIGATION

The investigation of Sirhan Sirhan's activities prior to the assassination of Robert Kennedy revealed that Sirhan had practiced shooting with the murder weapon at a shooting range in Duarte, California on June 4, 1968. During the interviews with witnesses who had seen Sirhan at the range, the rangemaster, Everett Buckner, alleged that he had overheard Sirhan and a blond woman in a heated conversation which Buckner felt was conspiratorial.

The investigation into this allegation revealed that Buckner probably confused much of what he saw during the time Sirhan was at the range. Statements of witnesses indicated that Sirhan arrived and departed alone. Sirhan spoke to several persons who were also practicing at the range but there was no evidence to indicate that Sirhan's contacts with people at the range were related to the Kennedy assassination. Rangemaster Buckner was administered a polygraph examination and it was determined that he had been untruthful. He eventually admitted that he had lied about what he had seen at the range. The investigation of the events of June 4, 1968, at the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club are described below.

Description of the Range

The San Gabriel Valley Gun Club, 4001 Fish Canyon Road, Duarte, is a privately owned, combination rifle, skeet, and pistol range which is open to the public on a fee basis. The rifle and pistol ranges face north into a steep hillside approximately

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

500 yards away. The range office, equipment shack and control tower is manned by the single rangemaster who rents equipment and controls the firing line. The 300 yard rifle range is east of the control tower and has fifty positions. The fifty yard pistol range is west of the tower and has twenty-four positions which may be observed from the control tower. The firing positions on both ranges are covered by a canopy and are equipped with benches and a concrete floor. The shotgun range is across the parking lot and faces south, over a large open field.

Shooters obtain their targets and frames at the range office and set them up themselves. They also paste and remove their own targets during periodic controlled breaks in the firing.

A roster is kept at the control tower office to be signed by all persons firing on either the rifle or pistol ranges. One of the rosters is for non-members; the other, for gun club members. The signing of this roster is not strictly adhered to by the members of the club, nor does the rangemaster require everyone to sign.

The fourteenth person to sign the non-member guest register on June 4, 1968, was Sirhan Sirhan, 696 East Howard Street. After signing the register, he obtained a target from the rangemaster and took a position on the west end of the pistol range. He arrived at the range between 11:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. and remained until it closed at 5 p.m. He arrived and left alone. During the day he fired approximately 300 to 400 rounds from a .22 caliber revolver with a short barrel. He used rapid fire

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

techniques when firing. He spoke with several other patrons discussing guns, ammunition, and shooting techniques.

The Police Department Notified

On June 5, 1968, Charles Kendall heard of the assassination and saw a picture of the suspect, Sirhan Sirhan, on a television screen. He recognized Sirhan as the person he saw firing a small caliber weapon at the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club on June 4, 1968. On June 6, 1968 Kendall returned to the gun club and asked the club manager, Lloyd Hager, if he was aware of the fact that Sirhan Sirhan had fired on the range on June 4, 1968. Hager dismissed this idea as a joke by Kendall. Kendall entered the business office where the rosters are kept and found the name Sirhan Sirhan on the non-member roster for the date of June 4, 1968. Kendall showed the roster to Joseph Tescher, and the executive officer, Maynard Goodell. Both Tescher and Goodell advised Hager to notify the Los Angeles Police Department. Hager contacted the Department on June 7, 1968.

Allegations Made by the Rangemaster

On June 17, 1968, the rangemaster, Everett Buckner, Sr., was interviewed at his home in Glendora, California. In that conversation he stated that Sirhan Sirhan arrived at the gun club on June 4, 1968, sometime between 9:30 a.m. and noon. He then took a position on the pistol range at the far west end of the range, probably target number one. After firing between 75 and 100 rounds, Sirhan went back to the control tower and told Buckner he wanted some .22 caliber shells that would not

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

misfire. Buckner sold him some .22 caliber hollow points; however, he was not sure of the brand. Buckner stated that Sirhan returned to his position, and fired an additional 25 to 30 rounds in the next half an hour or so.

Buckner stated that Sirhan had a conversation with a female Caucasian, 5-7 to 5-8, 130 to 140 pounds, 30's, fair complexion, blond shoulder-length wavy hair similar to a "page boy." She was wearing a light colored, one-piece dress with a full skirt. The woman was firing on the pistol range and had asked Buckner earlier to assist her in firing. However, Buckner had refused because it was against the club rules for the rangemaster to assist customers in firing.

Buckner saw Sirhan stop and talk to the blond and make gestures with his hands, pointing at both the rear sight and the front sight of her weapon. After several minutes, the blond said, "You son of a bitch," or "Goddamn you, son of a bitch, get away from me. They will recognize us." Shortly after that, Sirhan disappeared.

Upon arriving at the firing range, the above-described blond came to the control tower with a man described by Buckner as a male Caucasian, 6-4, and slim. He stated that the blond and the male had an argument with the male stating, "Goddamn it, you got to learn how to fire this gun today." The blond replied, "You're right. I've got to learn how to fire this gun today." They then purchased their targets with the male going to the rifle range and the female to the pistol range.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The investigation indicated that Buckner possibly confused two couples that came to the gun club on the day of June 4, 1968. The first couple, George Mioch, a CYA Parole Officer, and girl friend, Corliss Edwards, arrived at the gun club at approximately 11 a.m. George Mioch is a male Caucasian, DOB 6-10-23, 6-2, 200 pounds, brown hair, and blue eyes. Edwards is a female Caucasian, DOB 10-31-22, 5-6, 116, brown hair and hazel eyes. On June 4, 1968, she wore a blond shoulder-length wig to the firing range. As they arrived at the range, they had an argument in front of the control tower over a gun she had purchased approximately one year prior and had never fired. Mioch made the statement, "You have got to learn to fire the gun today." Mioch stated that a person not familiar with his demenor who overheard the conversation could have mistaken it as an argument. After paying for their targets, they both went to the rifle range, accompanied by their children, [redacted], 17, and [redacted], 13. At approximately noon, they left the rifle range and went to the pistol range taking a position on target number 13. As they arrived at this target, they noticed Sirhan firing to their left. Neither Corliss Edwards nor George Mioch had a conversation with Sirhan during the time they were on the range. Corliss Edwards stated that she stayed very close to their target position while they were on the range. They left between 1:00 and 1:30 p.m. Sirhan was still firing when they left.

The second couple, Ronald and Claudia Williams, arrived on the range at approximately 4 p.m. Claudia Williams is a female

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Caucasian, 26, 5-3, 110, blond hair, shoulder length, blue eyes. As they arrived at the control tower, they also had an argument. It was over the advisability of paying the range fee for less than an hour of shooting. They decided to purchase their targets; and he went to the rifle range and his wife went to the pistol range, taking a position on target 21 or 22. She identified Sirhan as the only person on the pistol range when she arrived. She had trouble in firing the revolver and asked Sirhan if she had to cock the gun in order to fire. Sirhan came over to her, a distance of thirty feet, and gave her instructions in obtaining a proper sight picture. In doing so, he made gestures with his hands, pointing at both the rear and front sights and at one point took her by the arm and showed her the proper stance for firing. After giving her the instructions, Sirhan fired 18 rounds from her revolver and stated, "It's firing a little to the left." She fired 18 rounds from his revolver, which she described as a .22 caliber revolver, blue steel in color with a short barrel. She noted that Sirhan was a very good shot. A short time later, Ronald Williams came over to the pistol range, had a short conversation with Sirhan concerning his wife's revolver, and they both left the range. The time was approximately 5 p.m. Sirhan had left the range five minutes before the Williams'. Ronald Williams stated that he saw Sirhan walk toward an old De Soto or Dodge, pink and white in color. He stated this may have occurred as they were driving out of the parking lot.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Statement of James Thornbrugh

James J. Thornbrugh arrived at the range at 10:45 a.m. He practiced on target number 22 and left at 2:30 p.m. His statements substantiated statements of the other witnesses with one exception: Thornbrugh stated he thought Sirhan was with a girl and was showing her how to shoot. He describes this female as Mexican or Latin descent, 22 to 23, 5-2 to 5-4, 115, dark brown shoulder length hair, dark complexion. He was uncertain if it was actually Sirhan giving her this instruction or another male standing near Sirhan's position. This information conflicted with that furnished by other witnesses, and after a reinterview, Thornbrugh was offered a polygraph examination.

On July 18, 1968, a polygraph examination was administered to Thornbrugh by Lt. E. Hernandez. At this time he admitted that he did not see or hear the woman talk to Sirhan and that she could have been with any of the men at the range that day. He stated that he had no basis for saying Sirhan and the woman were together.

Statements of David Montellano

David Montellano arrived at the range at 11:30 a.m. on June 4, 1968. He was with Henry Carreon, and they went to the rifle range. Montellano began to fire his pistol and was advised by the rangemaster that he must use the pistol range. He went to the pistol range at 12:45 p.m. Montellano observed Sirhan firing and noticed that he was firing very rapidly. He went to Sirhan's position and asked what caliber weapon he was firing.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Sirhan stated, "A .22 caliber." Montellano asked Sirhan the make of his gun, and Sirhan did not answer him but pointed to the top of the revolver and allowed Montellano to see it was an Iver Johnson.

Montellano observed eight ammunition boxes at Sirhan's position. Six of the boxes were .22 caliber Super-X long rifle and were empty. The remaining two were labeled .22 caliber mini-mags, and at least one of these was full of shells. Sirhan advised Montellano that the mini-mags he was firing cost more, but they were hollow points and spread out more on impact. Montellano noted that Sirhan piled his empty casings on the bench in front of him after firing.

Montellano left the range between 2 and 2:30 p.m. Sirhan was still firing and had 350 to 400 empty casings piled in front of him at that time.

Statement of Henry Carreon

Henry Carreon arrived at the range with David Montellano at approximately 11:30 a.m. Carreon preceded Montellano to the pistol range and he observed Sirhan firing on target 4 or 5 when he arrived. At that time there was only one other man firing on the range. He noticed Sirhan using rapid fire techniques and the report from the pistol appeared to be extra loud. When Montellano arrived at the pistol range, he, too, commented on the noise coming from Sirhan's gun. He was involved in a short conversation between Montellano and Sirhan regarding weapons, ammunition and firing techniques.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

He noticed Sirhan using a small screwdriver to eject the casings after firing. He left the range with Montellano between 2:00 and 2:30 p.m., and Sirhan was still firing at that time.

Statement of Michael Saccoman

Michael Saccoman arrived at the range at 2:30 p.m. He fired on target 6 or 7 and estimated Sirhan's location as between targets 14 and 20. Sirhan was at the range when he arrived and was still there when he left. Saccoman stated that Sirhan came over and started talking to him. Sirhan said "That's a pretty nice gun you have there, sort of heavy; can I see it?" Saccoman let him see the gun and allowed him to shoot it a couple of times. Saccoman later stated that these were the two best shots in his target. He went over to Sirhan's position and fired his gun a couple of times and put it down because, "I didn't want it to blow up in my hand."

Sirhan loaded Saccoman's gun with mini-mags and aimed at the wood target frame. He wanted to see how big a hole it would make. Sirhan stated to Saccoman that he bought his ammunition at the Lock, Stock 'N Barrel on Rosemead, below Huntington Drive. Sirhan told Saccoman that he had bought his gun for $40 from a friend. They talked of hunting, and Sirhan made the statement about his gun, "Well, this can kill a dog." He then changed the subject. Sirhan's target was shot up with at least 100 rounds, and Saccoman stated that Sirhan appeared nervous about checking his target. Saccoman left the range at 3:15 p.m.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Additional Conflicting Stories

Richard and Roberta Grijalva also reported observing Sirhan at the range. They both reported seeing him on the rifle range, not the pistol range. They both remained adamant in their statements and were invited to take a polygraph examination when investigators discovered that their statements conflicted with those of other witnesses.

On September 4, 1968, 1 p.m., Richard Grijalva was administered a polygraph examination at the polygraph facilities at Scientific Investigation Division. This examination was conducted by Lt. E. Hernandez. The results of this examination reveal that Richard Grijalva in his own mind honestly believes that he saw Sirhan Sirhan firing a rifle on the rifle range.

From the 37 persons interviewed, only two, Richard and Roberta Grijalva place Sirhan Sirhan on the rifle range, and it was the investigating officers' opinion that they made an honest mistake in identifying Sirhan Sirhan as the person they observed firing a rifle. An unidentified person resembling Sirhan in general appearance was observed by witnesses firing on the rifle range.

Examination of Evidence

On June 10, 1968 FBI Agents George Kling, Robert H. Morneau, Jr., and Irvin B. Wells went to the gun club and collected all the .22 caliber casings from the trash barrels and areas surrounding the firing positions on the pistol range.

Approximately 40 pounds of brass casings were taken into custody

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

and were sent to Washington, D.C. for comparison by the FBI Scientific Investigation Section. A request for an analyzed evidence report, comparing the brass confiscated by the FBI with the casing removed from Sirhan's weapon, was made by Captain H. I. Brown, Commander, Homicide Division, SUS. This was not done at the FBI Crime Laboratory, and the casings were later returned to the Los Angeles Police Department.

On August 12, 1968, Officer Dwayne Wolfer, Scientific Investigation Division, Firearms Section, completed his examination of the shell casings obtained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation at San Gabriel Valley Gun Club. Officer Wolfer reported he was unable to determine that any of the casings were fired in Sirhan's gun.

The Investigation Continues

On July 1, 1968, a show-up was held at the Glendora Police Department. Both George Mioch and Corliss Edwards volunteered to participate. Everett Buckner viewed both Edwards and Mioch through a glass partition. Buckner stated it looked just like the blond that had the conversation with Sirhan, but he was sure it wasn't her. He could not identify Mioch as being on the range at all.

On July 2, 1968, Everett Buckner volunteered to take a polygraph examination. The examination was given by Lt. E. Hernandez. It was Lt. Hernandez's opinion after giving the polygraph examination that Buckner was lying about the conversation between the blond woman and Sirhan. Lt. Hernandez also formed the

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

opinion that Buckner was lying about his failure to identify Mrs. Corliss Edwards as the blond woman having the conversation with Sirhan. After an extensive interview, Buckner admitted he had been lying about the statement he overheard made by the blond woman to Sirhan. He stated he had seen a blond female Caucasian talk to Sirhan; however, did not hear any conversation between the two. He would not give an explanation for his previous statement. Buckner also admitted that the woman in the show-up at Glendora Police Department, Corliss Edwards, was the same woman he had reference to as making the statement to Sirhan. He told Lt. Hernandez that he was 98 per cent sure Mrs. Edwards was the woman, but not 100 per cent sure. Therefore, he refused to identify her on July 1, 1968, in the line-up.

It was the investigating officers' opinion that Buckner in addition to making false statements had confused the activities of Mr. and Mrs. Williams and George Mioch and Corliss Edwards.

Summary

The day prior to shooting Senator Robert F. Kennedy, Sirhan B. Sirhan practiced firing a .22 caliber revolver at the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club. He arrived sometime between 11:00 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. and left the range when it closed at 5:00 p.m. He was alone when he arrived and when he left. He talked to several persons while at the range, but there is no evidence to indicate that any contact was related to the Kennedy assassination.

All of the witnesses described Sirhan's method of fire as

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

extremely rapid, and his shooting ability as "good" to "expert". He fired a large amount of ammunition with estimates ranging between 300 and 400 rounds. Investigators were unable to determine what happened to the empty casings. He discussed the destructive power of hollow point ammunition with three of the witnesses.

Most of the witnesses at the range that day stayed only an hour and a half to two hours; however, Sirhan's time on the range can be accounted for with the exception of one hour, from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sirhan was alone to the best of their knowledge.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

VOLUNTARY WITNESSES

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JERRY OWEN INVESTIGATION

Oliver Brindley Owen, aka Jerry Owen, was an ex-prize fighter turned minister who became involved in an intricate and contradictory series of events which allegedly involved Sirhan and Jerry Owen and the attempted purchase of a horse by Sirhan. The falsehood of Owen's allegation was clearly established through a separate and independent investigation.

Essentially Owen claimed that on Monday, June 3, 1968, at approximately 3:00 p.m., he picked up two hitchhikers in downtown Los Angeles and gave them a ride to the Hollywood-Wilshire area. Owen identified one of the hitchhikers as Sirhan who rode in the cab of his truck during part of the ride. Sirhan allegedly offered to buy a horse from Owen, who had a palomino for sale. The purchase was to be made at 11:00 p.m. that night at a location in Hollywood. Owen and Sirhan then allegedly met at this location at 11:00 p.m., and Sirhan asked Owen if he could wait until the next day when he would have the necessary money. Owen registered at a local hotel for the night.

The next morning, June 4, he was met by a man in a flashy suit and a blond girl who told him that Sirhan did not have the money for the horse but that he wanted Owen to meet him again at 11:00 p.m. that night. The man offered to give him some money as part payment on the horse. The man also told Owen that there was something happening at the Ambassador Hotel that night and that Sirhan would not have the money until then. Owen told the man that he could not meet Sirhan because of an

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

appointment in Oxnard. Owen gave the man a business card and offered to bring the horse to Los Angeles the next day.

Owen allegedly went to Oxnard, California, and remained there the night of June 4. He returned to Los Angeles at approximately 12:30 p.m. on the 5th and learned of the assassination. After allegedly recognizing a picture of Sirhan in a newspaper, he went to University Station where he made his statement to the Department.

During the ensuing months, investigators sought to conclusively establish the truth regarding Owen's allegation. On the surface his statements were not self-incriminating, and Owen presented himself as a volunteer witness who was interested in assisting the police. Essentially investigators needed only to establish the falsity of Owen's statements to refute his allegation or to verify the truth of his statements and use Owen as a material witness. All evidence seemed to indicate that Sirhan was not with Owen on the 3rd. It was necessary, however, for investigators to determine Owen's reasons for fabricating the incident or whether he was honestly mistaken.

A complication developed early in the investigation when Jerry Owen became wary about the investigation of his allegation. Owen allegedly received a threatening phone call on June 6, 1968, telling him to remain quiet regarding his horse deal with Sirhan. Owen moved to the San Francisco area where he remained for several months. During that time his allegation became

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

publicized and Owen engaged an attorney, George T. Davis, to represent him.

A polygraph examination was arranged for Owen on July 3, 1968, at the San Francisco Police Department. His attorney, Davis, was present during the test. Owen's responses to key questions indicated that he was being untruthful. When told of the results of the test, Owen made a lengthy statement which indicated that he was unsure of his original statement.

Investigators subsequently interviewed Mrs. Mary Sirhan and Adel Sirhan, who attempted to assist investigators in determining the truth of Owen's allegations. After a visit to Sirhan at the Hall of Justice, Mrs. Sirhan told investigators that Sirhan had denied knowing anything about Jerry Owen or the purchase of a horse.

At this point in the investigation, there had been three separate accounts of the occurrence given by Owen. The number of inconsistencies which appeared between the accounts and the results of the polygraph, coupled with Sirhan's denial of knowing Owen, led investigators to the conclusion that Owen was lying. It remained for investigators to determine why and to firmly refute Owen's statements with factual information and physical evidence.

In early August 1968, Jonn G. Christian, a magazine writer, and William Turner, an ex-F.B.I. agent turned free lance writer, entered into the Owen investigation. Christian contacted this Department offering his assistance, and he suggested that he

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

would like to be deputized to work with the Department. Christian had a taped account of Owen's story. He told investigators that he believed Sirhan and Owen were together on June 4 and that they conspired to assassinate Kennedy. Christian further alleged that Owen was involved in Sirhan's escape plans and after the aborted escape, Owen was trying to establish an alibi with his horse-selling story.

Christian subsequently wrote a letter to this Department which outlined his reasons for believing that Owen was involved in the assassination. Christian, by enumerating various conflicts in Owen's accounts of the incident, hypothesized that Owen's reasons for lying were that he was involved in the conspiracy and seeking a means to avoid association with Sirhan. Christian subsequently sought to establish a link in Owen's background with Dr. Carl MacIntyre, a minister whose name had been linked through the Garrison investigation with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Investigators, attacking the inconsistencies in Owen's accounts, also concluded that he was lying; however, there was no evidence to indicate that Owen was involved with an extremist group or with Sirhan. The following is an account of the investigation into the allegation of Jerry Owen.

Initial Statement of Jerry Owen

Jerry Owen went to University Station on June 5, 1968, at approximately 3:00 p.m. He gave the following account regarding a contact that he believed that he had had with Sirhan Sirhan:

2025-RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

On June 3, 1968, Owen left his residence in Santa Ana en route to the Coliseum Hotel, 457 West Santa Barbara, Los Angeles. He spoke with the manager of the hotel coffee shop, John Bert Morris, and Rip O'Reilly, a heavyweight boxer. Morris and Owen discussed the purchase of some boxing equipment from the United Sporting Goods Store, 901 South Hill Street, Los Angeles. At approximately 3:00 p.m. Owen purchased one pair of boxing shoes at United Sporting Goods and proceeded to Lester's Shoe Repair, 1263 North Vine Street, to have green shamrocks monogrammed on the shoes.

En route to Hollywood, while stopped at a traffic light at 7th and Grand Streets, two males requested a ride. The two men jumped into the rear of his truck with Owen's permission. Both men were described as Mexican or Latin, in their early twenties, with long hair and wearing old clothing. One hitchhiker was tall and slim and the other three or four inches shorter. At Wilshire and Western the taller man alighted from Owen's truck and greeted four other young adults standing on the corner. One of them was a male in his thirties with a large build wearing a flashy suit; a female Caucasian with dirty blond hair and two other young males were with the older man. The shorter hitch-hiker whom Owen subsequently identified as Sirhan asked if he could sit in the cab of the truck.

After moving into the cab, the man asked Owen if he would stop for a few minutes at the "big hotel" while he visited a friend who worked in the kitchen. The hotel was later identified as

2025-RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the Ambassador Hotel. The man returned to Owen's truck ten minutes later and asked if Owen would take him to Hollywood. En route they had a conversation, and the man told Owen that he was an exercise boy at the racetrack. After Owen told him that he had a palomino horse which he was to sell for $250 in Oxnard, the man expressed a desire to buy the horse after receiving some money later that evening. Owen agreed to meet him that night at 11:00 p.m. near a bowling alley on Sunset Boulevard.

The young man remained in Owen's truck while he delivered the shoes to be monogrammed. Owen recalled that the young man also discussed nationalities, and he said that he had been raised in Jordan. He also expressed his opposition to Jews.

At 11:00 p.m. Owen went to the bowling alley and found the young man with the blond female and the well-dressed male he had seen at Wilshire and Western that afternoon. They had a 1957, 1958 or 1959 off-white, hard top Chevrolet. The young man displayed a $100 bill and told Owen he could not pay for the horse at that time. He asked Owen to meet him the next morning, and he mentioned that something was happening at the hotel. Because the deal appeared certain to Owen, he registered at the St. Moritz Hotel, 5849 Sunset Boulevard for the night.

At 8:00 a.m. on the 4th, Owen received a phone call from a man who said he was calling for Joe Sahara. He then went to the parking lot of the St. Moritz Hotel where he was met by the blond woman and the man who was wearing the flashy suit. The man told Owen that the young man could not get the money until

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

that night, and they asked Owen if he could get the young man a job at a ranch. Owen gave them a business card and told them he would be back in Los Angeles the next day. Owen then went to Oxnard where he remained until 12:30 p.m. on the 5th.

When Owen returned to the Coliseum Hotel on June 5 at 3:00 p.m., he recognized a picture of Sirhan in the Hollywood Citizen News as being the young man who offered to purchase the horse from him. He related the incident to a waitress at the hotel coffee shop who suggested that he report it to the police. Owen then went to University Station. Owen subsequently told investigators that he believed that Sirhan was planning to use his truck to escape from the assassination.

Investigation of Owen's Statement

Owen was reinterviewed on June 18 at Parker Center and added some details to his original account. He said that Sirhan spoke with a slight Mexican accent and that he mentioned that he might sell his home and go to the Holy Land. He told investigators of a telephone conversation which he received approximately a week before. The person sounded like a male Negro and he stated to Owen, "You mother fucker, forget about the horse deal and keep your mouth closed." At this point in the investigation, it was assumed that Owen was being truthful; however, the investigation into the details of Owen's statements had not been completed.

On June 27, Owen was contacted at his home to set up an interview. Owen refused, stating that he was going to San Francisco. When

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the investigators suggested a meeting in Palo Alto, Owen said, "No," but suggested that they meet at the residence of Owen's brother in San Bruno. On June 29 the scheduled interview was canceled by the Department when investigators decided to wait for Owen to return to Los Angeles. Owen was not told of this decision, and he erroneously became fearful that his life was in danger. Owen's attorney, Davis, reported that Owen had been contacted by someone alleging that he was a Los Angeles policeman.

On July 1, 1968, San Francisco area papers printed an account of Owen's story about Sirhan. The articles reported that Owen was in hiding in the Napa Valley area in fear for his life. George Davis was quoted as saying that he believed that Owen was telling the truth and that he was reliable. Davis further stated that this Department had refused protection for Owen and that he would ask Attorney General Thomas Lynch for a 24-hour guard. Davis gave an account of Owen's allegation.

The article was in many ways the same as Owen's original account, with some notable contradictions and discrepancies. In his first account Owen said that the price to be paid for the horse was $250; in the newspaper account it was $300. Davis also stated that Owen first saw Sirhan's picture on television; contrary to that Owen had said that he had first seen Sirhan's picture in a newspaper. Owen told investigators that he had met one man and a blond woman at 8:00 a.m. on the 4th, but the article said that there were two men and a woman.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

On July 2, 1968, Wesley Gardner, owner of the Foremost Protective Agency, notified investigators that he was representing Owen and that future calls to Owen should be channeled through Gardner.

Polygraph Examination of Owen

Owen and Davis were contacted and the canceled interview in San Bruno was explained to their satisfaction. Due to the confusion which was developing in the Owen investigation, investigators arranged for a polygraph to be given by Lt. Hernandez to Jerry Owen at the San Francisco Police Department on July 3, 1968. George Davis was present during the examination, and Owen was explained the purpose of the test and given the opportunity to ask questions concerning the test. Owen resisted the control test; however, his responses indicated that he was a suitable subject for testing.

Owen was asked a total of 25 questions of which 9 were key questions. In response to the following relevant questions, Owen emitted answers which strongly indicated that he was being untruthful.

Q Is everything that you told me this morning about the hitchhiker true?

A Yes.

Q Do you honestly believe that you have talked to the man that is accused of shooting Kennedy?

A Yes.

Q When you told George Davis that you had talked to

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the man that shot Kennedy, were you telling him the truth?

A Yes.

Q Did the man who shot Kennedy offer to buy your horse at any time?

A Yes.

It was the examiner's opinion that Owen could not honestly say that he picked up, talked to or saw Sirhan on June 3, 1968. When informed of the results of the test, he made lengthy rationalizations about the occurrence. At one point he said, "I don't know; I don't know; it may not have been him, but if I had saw him face to face or heard his voice or something, then I would. I'd come out and make a definite statement. I don't know." He said that he had only mentioned that the person to whom he had given a ride looked like the picture of the man he had seen on television and accused of shooting Kennedy.

Investigation into Discrepancies

On July 2, 1968, Mrs. Mary Sirhan was interviewed regarding the money which Sirhan received from the insurance settlement for the fall from the horse. She recalled that Sirhan asked for $300 a day or two before the shooting. She said that she believed that Sirhan had spent most of the remainder from the $1,000 he gave her from the insurance settlement. She thought that he had given some of the money to Adel. Adel Sirhan was present during the interview, and he stated at one point, "I

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

think Sirhan wanted the $300 to buy a horse with." This was the only statement made by either Munir or Adel Sirhan regarding the money Sirhan received from the settlement.

On July 5, Mrs. Sirhan was again interviewed, this time regarding Sirhan's activities on June 3, 1968. She stated that Sirhan had driven her to work at 8:00 a.m. but that he was not at home at 12:30 p.m. when she returned. However, there was evidence that he had just taken a shower and there was a warm cup on the kitchen table. Sirhan was gone most of the afternoon, but she noticed that he was watching television at 4:30 p.m. She was certain that he remained home the rest of that night. This information conflicted with Owen's allegation. At least from the time of 4:30 p.m., Mrs. Sirhan's statement contradicts Owen's statement. This would include the conversations at the Sunset Boulevard bowling alley at 4:30 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. and casts additional doubt on the events which preceded 4:30 p.m.

Mrs. Sirhan agreed to speak to Sirhan at the Hall of Justice regarding the Owen allegation. On July 15, after she had spoken to Sirhan, Mrs. Sirhan related his response. Sirhan told her that he did not know Owen, had never seen him nor had he ever ridden in his pickup truck. He also denied that he had attempted to purchase a palomino horse.

The denial by Sirhan, the statements of Mrs. Sirhan and the results of the Owen polygraph caused investigators to conclude that Owen had lied about the incident. Owen's reasons for

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

lying could not be completely determined; however, an intensive examination of Owen's background revealed a history of involvement in questionable and illegal activities. This information tended to cast doubt on Owen's credibility.

Owen's third account of the incident given, when he was administered the polygraph, was compared with the other two accounts. Further discrepancies were noted, some of which indicated that Owen was adding details which he should have given in his first account. In addition he left out details which were in the original account.

He stated that he had purchased a robe and a pair of boxing shoes at United Sporting Goods; this was opposed to his first statement wherein he said he had purchased only a pair of boxing shoes. He also related that during the evening hours between the time he allegedly dropped off Sirhan around 6:00 p.m. and the time he met him again at 11:00 p.m., Owen stated that he had gone to the Plaza Hotel to see a friend, the ex-fighter Slapsy Maxie Rosenbloom. They then went to a Saints and Sinners meeting. This incident did not appear in Owen's first account at University Station. Further, Owen did not mention the stop at the Coliseum Hotel and Teamsters Gymnasium; instead, he said that he went directly from Santa Ana to the United Sporting Goods Store.

When shown a set of mugs, Owen could not identify Sirhan, and he chose a look-alike as the other man who rode in his truck. In addition, Owen changed the time and date on which he received

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the threatening phone call. The newspaper account had stated that he had received the call the evening of the 5th. During the July 3, 1968, interview Owen said that the call came between 2:00 and 5:00 p.m. on June 6.

Investigation into the alleged activities of Owen on June 3 revealed additional discrepancies in his story. Investigators determined that sales records at the United Sporting Goods Store showed no sale of a boxing robe on June 3. A pair of boxing shoes were sold on that date but not to Owen. The manager of the store, Jack Misrach, stated that he knew most of the boxing people in this area. He does not know Owen or Rip O'Reilly, the boxer. After looking at Owen's picture, Misrach did not recall seeing Owen in his store. Jesse Edwards, the salesman who sold the shoes on that date, thought Owen looked familiar but could not recall the transaction. The transaction for the shoes included several other items including gloves, headgear, shorts, jump rope and other items totaling $39.45.

Lester's Shoe Repair at 1263 North Vine Street was checked to verify Owen's statement that he had taken the shoes for monogramming. Lester Shields, the owner, stated that he had no record of when Owen brought the shoes for monogramming. Shields remembered that Owen came to his shop three times; one time that he remembered seeing Owen's truck, there was no one in it. When he picked up the shoes, two young women were with him and Rip O'Reilly was in the truck.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Dianne Scott, owner of the seamstress shop adjacent to the shoe repair shop, stated that she recalled that Owen brought a robe to be momogrammed on June 10, 1968, not June 3. He picked up the robe on June 26.

Shields estimated the dates of Owen's appearances at his shoe shop as:

Originally brought shoes into the shop	May 23-27, 1968
Picked shoes up the first time	May 25-28, 1968
Brought shoes in second time	May 27-29, 1968
Picked up shoes the final time	June 8, 1968

Investigators interviewed the persons whom Owen stated that he told of the incident who were at the Coliseum Hotel on June 5. Owen allegedly told them of the hitchhiker incident and one of them, Mabel Jacobs, a waitress, told him to tell the police.

Jacobs stated that she spoke to Owen who was in the Coliseum Hotel Coffee Shop with Rip O'Reilly on June 5. Owen pointed to a picture of Sirhan in the newspapers and told her that he was the hitchhiker that he had picked up on June 3. Owen told her that he had taken Sirhan to the Ambassador Hotel and that Sirhan expressed a desire to purchase a horse he was transporting to Oxnard. Bert Morris, the owner, stated that he was not present during Owen's relating of the incident to Jacobs. He did recall that Owen was in the coffee shop on June 5.

Rip O'Reilly, a professional boxer under contract to Owen, was interviewed. He stated that he lives at the Coliseum Hotel and that Owen came there on June 5 to see him. Owen related

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the incident of the hitchhiker and told him that he believed that the young man resembled Sirhan. O'Reilly, however, provided investigators with information which strongly contradicted Owen's account.

O'Reilly stated that on June 3, 1968, Owen called him at about 10:30 a.m. and invited him to attend a Saints and Sinners Club that night. At 6:30 p.m. Owen picked O'Reilly up at the Coliseum Hotel, and they drove to the meeting on Fairfax Avenue. Owen was driving a dark-colored pickup truck with a horse trailer attached. A horse was in the trailer. They remained at the meeting until 11:30 p.m., and Owen took O'Reilly back to the hotel.

On June 5, Owen came to the hotel and related to O'Reilly that he had picked up a hitchhiker on Wilshire Boulevard on June 3 and that the hitchhiker offered him $400 for his horse. Owen said that he stayed at a hotel the night of the 3rd to complete the transaction the next day. Owen told O'Reilly that he believed that Sirhan was a Mexican. O'Reilly further advised investigators that Owen had purchased the boxing shoes mentioned by Owen prior to June 3, 1968.

Investigators had established sufficient contradiction in Owen's story that they were convinced that he was lying. Owen's uncertainty at the conclusion of his polygraph in San Francisco tended to substantiate that conclusion. The only remaining aspect of the investigation was to establish Owen's reason for

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

fabricating the story.

Owen's Background

Owen was born on [redacted], in Ashland, Ohio. He attended the University of Southern California where he played varsity football. For many years he was a sparring partner for ex-heavyweight boxing champion, Max Baer.

Owen had claimed that he had been an ordained minister since 1937 and that he held a credential with the Charles M. Holder Ministry, Inc. on Colton Street in Los Angeles. During his July 3 interview in San Francisco, Owen admitted that he had not been legally ordained. He stated that he had gone into a hotel room for several days during which time he prayed. This constituted his ordainment.

Owen was arrested on suspicion of robbery in 1930 by the Long Beach Police Department but was released the same day. Over the years Owen has been involved in various suspicious and illegal activities. An analysis of the total record of Owen's police record and investigations into his activities reveal that he has been involved in several fire insurance claims involving his personal and church properties, and he has several times been involved in extra-marital and paternity investigations. His religious activities are of the rural evangelistic type with makeshift facilities. Owen has advertised himself as "The Walking Bible" and cites Ripley's "Believe it or Not" as proof that he has complete recall of the Bible. His method is that of a huckster, calling for the believing to listen to his

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

message. Several of those interviewed likened his approach to that of a "confidence man."

His record would tend to support that description. Owen has been involved in six fires beginning in 1939 in Castro Valley, California. On several occasions he collected insurance settlements from these fires. The cases occurred in: (1) Castro Valley, 1939; (2) Crystal Lake Park, Oregon, 1945; (3) Dallas, Texas, 1946; (4) Mount Washington, Kentucky, 1947; (5) Ellicott City, Maryland, 1951; and (6) Tucson, Arizona, 1962.

Owen's $16,000 claim for the fire in Maryland was denied because of fraud. A witness observed Owen moving personal effects out of the house prior to the fire and then return them. Owen subsequently collected $6,500 when the denial was appealed.

In 1963, Owen was arrested in Costa Mesa, California, on a fugitive warrant from Tucson, Arizona, for arson with the intent to defraud an insurance company. A church, Our Little Chapel, which was owned by Owen was destroyed by fire on July 31, 1962, in Tucson. The investigation by the Tucson Police Department revealed that arson was the suspected cause of the fire. Owen was subsequently convicted of three counts of arson and sentenced to serve 8-10 years in prison. The decision was appealed and reversed on June 27, 1966.

In addition to fire claims, Owen has been involved in sex offenses over the years. In 1943, [redacted], 16 years of age, joined Owen's gospel camp in Milwaukee, Oregon. She had

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

met Owen when he had his "Open Door Church" in her home town of Des Moines, Iowa. Just prior to Owen obtaining a divorce from his wife in 1947, [redacted] became pregnant and returned to her home in Des Moines. Owen gave [redacted] $65 and told her that he would come to Des Moines and marry her. The child was born in November, 1947, and Owen forwarded $420 for hospital expenses. [redacted] later received word that Owen had gotten drunk, married a prostitute and that he would not be able to marry her. [redacted] had traveled off and on with Owen's touring churches for approximately seven years. (Owen stated during his polygraph that he had had a paternity suit filed against him at one time.)

On February 17, 1945, Owen was arrested for disorderly conduct in Portland, Oregon. He was found in a motel room with a female, Francis McCarty, both were nude. Owen was fined $50 and given thirty (30) days in jail; however, Owen posted an appeal bond of $250, and the case was continued indefinitely. Intelligence Division reports of Owen's activities reveal that he was reported to have been involved with women a number of times during his evangelistic tours.

Owen's highly suspicious background caused investigators to speculate that he sought to use the story about Sirhan to bring attention upon himself. His involvement in the activities described above were questionable grounds for giving credence to his ministerial goodness, and his suspicious record indicated that he was capable of concocting a story as devious as his alleged encounter with Sirhan. Investigators further speculated

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

that Owen probably did pick up a hitchhiker in the downtown area, though not necessarily on June 3, 1968. Owen then combined a series of events which had occurred on various dates and developed his story. The small discrepancies in his stories would account for some vague familiarity that Owen had with each incident but that he would forget minor details from telling to telling.

Involvement of Jonn G. Christian

Three telephone calls were received by investigators from Jonn Christian, a magazine writer, one each on August 7, 9 and 11, 1968. Christian indicated that he had a tape of Jerry Owen's account and that he wished to assist the Department in its investigation. He went so far as to suggest that he and an associate, William Turner, be "deputized." Christian sought to listen to the Los Angeles Police Department tape of Owen's account so that he could note discrepancies. It was Christian's opinion that Owen and Sirhan were together on June 4, 1968, and that Owen was to assist Sirhan with his escape. Because Sirhan had been captured, Christian believed that Owen had concocted his story to establish an innocuous reason for being with Sirhan.

Investigators sought then to establish the validity of Christian's allegation. It was believed that Owen was not involved with Sirhan in a conspiracy or that he had ever seen him. However, Christian's claim had to be disproven completely. Christian himself carried his claim to various governmental

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

bodies to plea for their aid in investigating his allegation. His actions caused investigators deep concern as each time they would feel that the Christian claim had been satisfactorily explained to other interested parties, Christian would successfully enlist the support of another agency.

Christian mailed two extensive confidential letters to the Department outlining his "original, unique and confidential information" regarding the assassination. The material represented Christian's theory regarding the discrepancies in Owen's story. Christian also attempted to establish a link between Owen and Dr. Carl MacIntyre, the minister reportedly connected by New Orleans District Attorney James Garrison with the John F. Kennedy assassination.

Investigators were able to establish that Christian had been contacted by George Davis, Owen's attorney, who told Christian, "I think I'm broken in on the Senator Kennedy conspiracy." Davis asked Christian to handle his press releases.

William Turner, Christian's partner and an ex-F.B.I. agent turned free lance writer, had been previously associated with Davis. Turner had lost a campaign for public office in the June primaries, and Davis had been his campaign manager. In addition, Turner had been associated with the radical publication "Ramparts" and has written a book entitled "The Police Establishment."

It is anticipated that Jonn Christian and William Turner will

2025-RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

publish or somehow publicly reveal their theory regarding Jerry Owen and Sirhan. They have consistently attempted to attach credence to their claim by enlisting the support of high ranking government officials for their claim. They will also likely as not show up in conjunction with any attempt to link the two Kennedy assassinations, an event which will definitely occur in one form or another.

On two occasions Christian admitted to investigators that his opinions regarding Owen and Sirhan were only theories. He further admitted that he was investigating the possibility of a conspiracy as a writer and that if a conspiracy did not exist between Sirhan and Owen, he did not have a story.

This investigation has gathered such information as to indicate that Jerry Owen did not know or ever meet Sirhan. The remaining pieces to be inserted into the investigation are those which could not physically be obtained. This includes a direct meeting between Sirhan and Owen. Owen himself, on the advice of his attorney, has been reluctant to continue assisting investigators.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

THE VIRGINIA TERESI INVESTIGATION

Mrs. Virginia Teresi voluntarily contacted this Department on June 5, 1968, regarding three men in a vehicle whom she had observed on June 3, 1968. Mrs. Teresi alleged that she observed these men with guns and that she overheard conversation which included the word "Kennedy." Mrs. Teresi eventually identified a photograph of Sirhan Sirhan as one of the three men in the vehicle.

Subsequent investigation revealed that Mrs. Teresi had fabricated the whole story. She had been fearful for Senator Kennedy's safety, and after the shooting she wanted to assure that a complete investigation would be made. A description of the Virginia Teresi investigation follows.

The Investigation

On June 5, 1968, at approximately 6:00 a.m. Mrs. Virginia Teresi, 21, contacted the Department by telephone and stated that she had information relevant to the shooting of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Mrs. Teresi was interviewed on June 5, 1968, at 11:30 a.m.

She stated that on June 3, 1968, between 3:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. she was in her vehicle, parked westbound at the north curb of Melrose Avenue approximately 150 feet east of St. Andrews Place. As she started forward in the curb lane, a westbound vehicle passed her and pulled abruptly to the curb between her vehicle and the corner of St. Andrews Place. There were three males in

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the front seat of the vehicle and no one in the rear seat.

As the vehicle stopped, the passenger in the right front seat jumped out and stood on the curb. He appeared to be very excited. He turned back toward the vehicle, leaned forward through the open right front door and appeared to be engaged in a heated conversation with the two men remaining in the vehicle.

Mrs. Teresi pulled to the left and attempted to drive around the parked vehicle. As she pulled abreast of the vehicle, the right side of her vehicle was within a few inches of the left side of the parked one. At this point she was forced to stop because of heavy traffic.

The windows of both cars were open, enabling her to overhear parts of the conversation between the man on the curb and the occupants of the vehicle. The driver said, "Get your ass in the car, we have to get him tonight." The man on the curb said, "I don't want to, I'm afraid." One of the men in the car said something that included the word "Kennedy." There was some additional conversation that Mrs. Teresi could not overhear.

At this time the man on the curb stood erect, and Mrs. Teresi observed the handle of a small revolver protruding from the waistband of his trousers. The man on the curb noticed Mrs. Teresi looking at them. He again leaned forward into the vehicle and spoke to the men inside. All three men then stared at her for several seconds.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The man on the curb jumped back into the car and said something that included the words "Wilshire Boulevard." The vehicle accelerated rapidly and Mrs. Teresi last observed it westbound on Melrose Avenue.

When the vehicle pulled away, Mrs. Teresi observed two rifles leaning against the back seat. These rifles were partially covered with a green blanket, but approximately six inches of the barrels were exposed to view.

Mrs. Teresi then made a right turn onto St. Andrews Place and parked in front of her house. She did not see the vehicle nor the men again.

Mrs. Teresi provided investigators with descriptions of the three men and the vehicle. She had not noticed the license number. Mrs. Teresi was shown a photograph of Sirhan, and she positively identified him as the man who had jumped from the vehicle.

The Follow-up Investigation

On June 14, 1968, Mrs. Teresi was reinterviewed. She repeated her original story. She also stated that on June 3, 1968, upon arriving home following the above incident, she had telephoned the Los Angeles Office of the F.B.I. and told them what she had seen and heard. The F.B.I. was contacted, and they determined that there was no record of this call. The F.B.I. indicated that if a call of this nature had been received, the files would so indicate.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

On June 14, Mrs. Teresi advised investigators that on the evening of June 12, while she was driving to a friend's house, she was followed for several blocks by a man driving an expensive dark sedan. This man did not attempt to contact her nor did he commit any overt acts. Mrs. Teresi took a zig-zag route to her friend's house but was unable to evade the following vehicle. When she stopped at her friend's house, the vehicle which had been following her passed and she did not see it again. Mrs. Teresi had no further information about this car or the driver.

On June 16, Mrs. Teresi contacted investigators by telephone and reported that on June 15 at approximately 7:00 p.m. a female Caucasian approximately twenty-five years of age had knocked on her door and attempted to engage her in conversation. Mrs. Teresi refused to open the door. The female remained standing in front of Mrs. Teresi's apartment for approximately five minutes and then left on foot.

On June 18, 1968, at 6:00 a.m. Mrs. Teresi contacted investigators by telephone and stated she had received a threatening note. During the conversatin she was crying. She stated that she was very frightened. It appeared to investigator that she was in a highly emotional state of mind. She refused to discuss the details of the incident by telephone and asked the investigator to come to her home as soon as possible.

When the investigator arrived at Mrs. Teresi's home, she showed him a photograph that had been clipped from a local newspaper. This photo showed Senator Kennedy lying on the floor of the kitchen

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

at the Ambassador Hotel following the shooting. The word "triumph" appeared at the top of the picture and attached to the photo with scotch tape were additional words apparently clipped from newsprint. These words were "Don't talk or I do anything to prevent it." Mrs. Teresi stated that upon arising at 6:00 a.m., she had discovered the clipping on the living room floor inside the front door. She assumed that it had been slipped under the door during the night.

The Polygraph Examination

During this interview, it was suggested to Mrs. Teresi that it might be helpful if she would submit to a polygraph examination. She consented to do so.

During the examination, Mrs. Teresi was questioned regarding the statements she had made about the three men in the car and about the threatening note. Some of the questions were: "Did you see a man with a gun on Monday, the day before Senator Kennedy was shot?" "Did you see Sirhan on Monday, the day before Senator Kennedy was shot?" "Is everything that you have told the police the truth?" To these questions she replied, "Yes." To the questions: "Do you know who made this note?" and "Did you make this note?" she replied, "No." The results of the examination indicated that Mrs. Teresi was not being truthful when she answered the questions.

Mrs. Teresi's Admission of Fabricating Incidents

At the conclusion of the interview, Mrs. Teresi was confronted with the results. She became very emotional and admitted that

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

her entire story was false. She stated that none of the incidents which she had related to investigators had actually occurred. She also admitted that she had constructed the "threatening note" herself.

During the post examination interview, Mrs. Teresi stated that she was ashamed of what she had done and sorry for the trouble she had caused. The only justification she could offer was that prior to the shooting of Senator Kennedy she feared for his safety and when the shooting actually occurred, she wanted to do whatever she could to assure that the incident would be thoroughly investigated.

Background Information

During the investigation, the following was disclosed: Mrs. Teresi is a female Caucasian, 5-7½, 127, blonde hair, green eyes, date of birth [redacted]. She shares an apartment at 714 3/4 North St. Andrews Place with her mother Mary Luckenback.

She is married to Tony Teresi who has been in the Army for approximately three months and is presently stationed at Ft. Ord, California. Mr. Teresi is attempting to get a discharge from the army. Mrs. Teresi would not discuss his reason for doing so. She works on a part-time basis for Affiliated Artists Agency at 1136 North La Brea Avenue, Los Angeles. She stated that she is not a member of any political organization. She was a supporter of Senator Kennedy but had done no campaign work for him.

She is a pacifist and often makes peace and love posters which

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

she displays on her vehicle. She stated that these posters reflect her own philosophy and do not represent affiliation with any group. She has no criminal record.

A detailed medical record of Mrs. Teresi was not available. The following information was obtained from the Los Angeles County General Hospital and the Los Angeles County Department of Adoption:

On December 2, 1962, [redacted] attempted [redacted] of Los Angeles County General Hospital (PF#1580423). She told the psychiatrist at that time that she could not get along with her mother. She was released to her mother on December 5, 1962.

On April 2, 1963, she was again [redacted] by [redacted]. On May 5, 1963, she was released and referred to the Los Angeles County Department of Adoption.

The Los Angeles County Department of Adoption referred her to a maternity home, and she later gave birth to an illegitimate child which was placed for adoption by that department.

In 1963 the social worker's report stated that Mrs. Teresi was disassociated from life, had no friends, refused to work at school, was disobedient and considered by school authorities to be uneducable. The report further stated that the source of her problems appeared to be the relationship that existed between

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

her and her mother.

Los Angeles County Hospital records indicate that since 1963 Mrs. Teresi has been treated for minor physical ailments such as headaches, coughs, sore toe etc.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

THE GOLDEN GARTER INVESTIGATION

The owners of the Golden Garter Inn, 2605 West Valley Boulevard Alhambra, alleged that Sirhan B. Sirhan was overheard making a threatening type statement in their beer bar during the weeks just prior to the shooting of Senator Kennedy.

The investigation into the allegation identified the person described by witnesses and determined that he was not associated with, but did resemble Sirhan.

The Allegation

Detective B. Aharonian, Alhambra Police Department, received a telephone call from Joseph and Carl Martigani, owners of the Golden Garter Inn, who advised him that Sirhan had visited their bar on a number of occasions in the recent weeks. Aharonian notified the Los Angeles Police Department and arrangements were made for the investigators to use Alhambra Police facilities to conduct interviews.

Joseph Martigani stated that he observed a man who he thought was Sirhan sitting at a table in his bar on May 29, 1968, with a customer named James L. Wilson. When he approached the table he overheard the subject with Wilson say "we'll get him when he comes to Los Angeles." Wilson looked in Martigani's direction and "Cool it, cool it." Martigani discussed Wilson's bar tab with him at that time.

Martigani picked Sirhan's photograph from a group of look-alikes and stated that this man most nearly resembled the man sitting

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

with Wilson. He could not say it definitely was Sirhan. He reported observing other customers playing pool with the man who looked like Sirhan, including Wilson.

Carl Martigani stated he observed Wilson alight from a vehicle in the parking lot behind his bar. Wilson was accompanied by a man who resembled Sirhan, however, Martigani could not recall observing the man inside his bar. He described the vehicle as a 1959 DeSoto or Chrysler, orange and white or pink and white. He was shown a photograph of Sirhan's car and stated it was not the same vehicle. He could not positively identify Sirhan as the man with Wilson.

Officers Hobert Taylor and Ted Markot, Alhambra Police Department, stated they had observed a person in the Golden Garter playing pool who resembled Sirhan.

The Investigation

James Wilson viewed a photograph of Sirhan and advised investigators that it looked like a man he had worked with, Bob Andrese. He stated that he had gone to the Golden Garter with Andrese each evening for approximately two weeks while they were working together. He recalled the conversation reported by Martigani, but was certain that it occured on May 28th. Wilson explained that Andrese talked about politics continually and that particular time he was becoming excited, so Wilson told him to "cool it." Wilson stated that was the last time he saw Andrese. He reported that he never observed Sirhan in the Golden Garter or played pool with him. Wilson was administered a polygraph

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

examination, the results of which indicated he was telling the truth.

Robert Andrese told investigators that he had accompanied James Wilson to the Golden Garter Inn four or five times. During the month of May he gave Wilson a ride to and from work and they stopped at the Golden Garter Inn on their way home. Andrese was driving a 1965 Valiant sedan and denied driving a 1959 DeSoto. Andrese stated that Wilson was not interested in politics, political candidates, or the current election. He doesn't recall seeing Wilson since May 29, 1968 and verifies that his last visit to the Golden Garter Inn was on May 28, 1968. Investigators noted that Andrese had a vague resemblance to Sirhan.

Dorothy Manning was interviewed at her residence where she lives with James Wilson, Edwin Ness and Rhonda Green. She told investigators that she was employed at the Golden Garter Inn during May 1968. She met Robert Andrese during that period of time; and, he drove Wilson and her home from the Golden Garter Inn after she got off work. She stated that the person sitting with Wilson the night Martigani reported seeing Sirhan with him was Andrese. Manning verified Andrese's vehicle to be a 1965 Valiant, She stated that she had ridden in his vehicle on several occasions.

Harold Pitz and Harry Patzman were identified by Joseph and Carl Martigani as the customers who shot pool with the man alleged to be Sirhan. Patzman stated that he was not sure the person he saw in the bar was Sirhan. He told investigators the photograph of Sirhan looked similar to someone he had seen in

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the bar but stated this was not the person. Mr. Pitz stated that he thought he had shot pool with Sirhan at the Golden Garter, but was not certain of the identity of this person. He stated he thought the person to be Mexican, approximately twenty-eight years old, with heavy acne marks on his face who spoke broken English with possibly a Spanish accent.

Edwin Ness viewed a photograph of Sirhan and stated that this photograph resembled the individual he knew as Bob (Andrese) with the exception that Bob combed his hair straight back and had a pock-marked face. He stated Bob's car was a Valiant and to the best of Ness's knowledge Bob had accompanied Wilson to the bar on many occasions.

Mr. William T. Woodburn, a customer of the Golden Garter Inn, stated he has played pool on occasion with an individual whose facial features somewhat resemble, but are not identical to those of Sirhan's. Woodburn identified a photograph of Andrese as a man he played pool with.

Steve Steuart stated he shot pool at the Golden Garter Inn with a man resembling Sirhan. He was unable to identify the photograph of Andrese as being in the Golden Garter, but advised investigators that one of the Martigani brothers called him after Senator Kennedy was shot, and told him Sirhan had been in the bar. He stated that it was his opinion that this story was created by the Martigani Brothers who desired attention. He stated he was unable to furnish any factual information concerning Sirhan or any associates in the Golden Garter.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Kathy Venne, a temporary bar maid at Golden Garter, viewed photographs of Andrese, Wilson and Sirhan and stated that she had never seen any of these persons in the Golden Garter. It was noted that she worked there only two nights.

Linda Strugeon, night bar maid at the Golden Garter Inn, readily identified photographs of Wilson and Andrese as customers she had seen at the bar. She was sure that she had not seen Sirhan at that location.

Investigation of Female Seen at the Golden Garter Inn

Officer Don Trumble, Alhambra Police Department, stated that he observed a individual who resembled Sirhan in the Golden Garter Inn on at least one occasion during May 1968. He also recalled seeing a blond female enter the Golden Garter Inn. She was wearing dark horn-rimmed glasses and was described as being very big busted. He recalled a patron remarked that the girl was a friend of "Jims" (Wilson). A photograph of Beverly Corey was shown to Trumble, and he stated she appeared to be the same girl as he saw in the bar, but was unable to make a positive identification.

Beverly Khoury and Barbara Corey went to the Sirhan home on June 5, 1968, to console Adel Sirhan whom they both knew well. Both girls are dancers. They denied that they knew Sirhan Sirhan. Photographs and physical descriptions of these women were used by investigators when interviewing witnesses who alleged that they had seen Sirhan Sirhan with women.

A photograph of Beverly Corey and Barbara Khoury was shown to

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

witnesses connected with the Golden Garter Inn as a result of the statement by Officer Trumble. Joseph and Carl Martigani and Trumble were the only ones who identified Corey as having been in the bar. None of them stated they were positive in this identification.

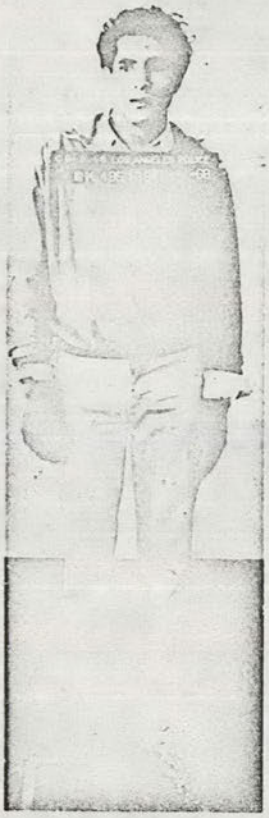
Both girls denied ever being at the Golden Garter Inn or being acquainted with any of the principals in this investigation.

Results of the Investigation

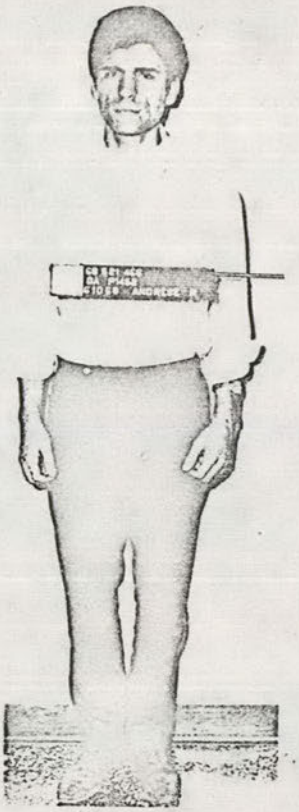
Robert Andrese was identified as the person who resembled Sirhan and was reported being seen in the bar. The reported threatening statement was identified as being part of a heated political discussion and not a threat of bodily injury to anyone.

The allegation that Beverly Corey was seen in the Golden Garter remains unsupported with the following evidence being in direct conflict: Corey is slim and not big busted; she has dark hair, not blond; and she denies ever being in the bar. No witnesses were able to go on record with a positive identification of her being at the bar.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



Sirhan B. Sirhan



Robert Andrese

Robert Andrese, on the right, was mistaken for Sirhan by customers of the Golden Garter Inn in Alhambra, California. It was alleged that Sirhan argued with another customer about politics and that he was overheard heatedly saying, "We'll get him when he comes to Los Angeles." The investigation determined that Andrese was the man in question and that the remark was incorrectly interpreted by the informant.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Subsequent to the announcement of Sirhan's arrest in the Robert Kennedy assassination; John Glenn Gearhart, a 47 year old office worker, contacted the Los Angeles Police Department and made the statement that he had spoken to Sirhan B. Sirhan at a bar in Glendora the night of the shooting. Gearhart alleged that a group of people with Sirhan told him that Sirhan was going to take care of Kennedy. Investigation revealed that Gearhart lied to investigators regarding the incident. An account of the investigation follows:

On July 15, 1968, Gearhart stated to investigators he had attended an American Legion Dinner between 6 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., on Election Day, June 4, 1968. He then drove to a bar, "The Talk of the Town," 5230 North Citrus Avenue, Glendora. He arrived there shortly after 9:30 p.m. and sat next to a young male at the bar. He described this young male as Cuban or Italian, in his early twenties, 5-7/5-8, 135, small build, dark skin, wearing a light blue long sleeve dress shirt with the cuffs turned up, dark trousers, and dark grey swede shoes. He stated that they engaged in a conversation and that he stated, "I hope McCarthy wipes out Kennedy." The young male replied, "You don't have to worry, we have that taken care of." Gearhart introduced himself, and the young man replied, "My name is Sirhan Bishara Sirhan." They spoke about Resurrection City, and later this man stated, "I have plenty of money and a nice car." "I am from Jordan."

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Mr. Gearhart observed two young females sitting at the bar and asked one of the two to dance, but she refused. He asked the other and she accepted. After they finished dancing, he observed two males join the women. These men were both described as male Italians between twenty-two and twenty-seven years old, and taller then the man who introduced himself as Sirhan. Gearhart left the bar and the two males and two females followed him. One of the men approached him and asked him why he had been dancing with his girl. Gearhart became apprehensive and pretended to be drunk. They took Gearhart to the Thrifty Drugstore Coffee Shop across the street from the bar. One of the men stated that Gearhart didn't have to worry about Kennedy winning the election "as Sirhan had things taken care of." When Gearhart stated that Sirhan must be pretty big in politics, one of the men looked at his watch and stated, "It's getting late, we have a party to go to in Los Angeles. We have to go back and pick up Sirhan." Gearhart stated that he arrived home at approximately 11:05 p.m., fixed a sandwich, and watched the election returns on television.

Gearhart stated that he had only two drinks at the dinner and two more while at the bar. He stated that he found one of the girl's purses in his vehicle the next morning and during his lunch hour he took the purse to the bartender at the bar.

The investigating officer showed Gearhart photographs including a photo of Sirhan Sirhan and several look-alikes. Gearhart was unable to identify the photo of Sirhan as being the man he spoke to at the bar. The investigating officer advised Gearhart that other witnesses statements conflicted with his as to Sirhan's

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

whereabouts between 9:30 and 10:30 p.m., the night of June 4th. Gearhart remained adamant and stated that he had not made up his story.

Interview of Bartender George Naumis

The bartender at the "The Talk of the Town", George Naumis, was interviewed on July 15, 1968. He stated he did recall the people being in the bar and Gearhart returning the purse, but was unable to recall the date or the day of the week. Mr. Naumis believed that the people had stayed until the bar closed at 2 a.m., on the day in question and further stated the purse belonged to a Mexican girl who worked for "Ric Car" on Citrus Avenue. Mr. Naumis was unable to identify the photo of Sirhan as a person in his bar that night.

Interview of Dolores Licon

Dolores Diane Licon is employed for "Ric Car", 239 North Citrus, Avenue, Covina. Licon stated that she did not go to "The Talk of the Town" on June 4, 1968; however, she did go there with friends one Thursday night after attending the fights at the Olympic Auditorium. Licon, and her friends, stayed until the bar closed at 2 a.m. When they left the bar they observed a drunk, who she identified as Gearhart, getting into his vehicle. Because of his drunken condition, they took him to a coffee shop across the street from the bar. While in the coffee shop, they discussed hunting, but no one mentioned politics. After Licon left the coffee shop she recalled that she had left her purse in the drunk's vehicle. The next day she picked her purse up at the "Talk of the Town". Licon stated that no one in her party danced with Gearhart.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Additional Interviews

Jane Arrant, William Michael Kirkpatrick, Janet Marie Reinke and John Carl Woods were identified as being the group with Dolores Licon the night in question. They were all interviewed and confirmed Dolores Licon's statement. In addition, Kirkpatrick stated that his attention was first called to Gearhart when Gearhart made a remark to his girlfriend causing him to become angry.

On July 23, 1968, Mr. Gearhart was administered a polygraph examination by Lt. Hernandez in the polygraph facilities of the Scientific Investigation Division. The results of the polygraph examination of Gearhart indicated that he had been untruthful. His responses indicated that he had never talked to or saw Sirhan Sirhan in person. Subsequent to this examination, Mr. Gearhart admitted that he had lied. He stated that he had never seen or talked to Sirhan Sirhan. He said that he was ashamed of himself and could not understand why he had made up the story. His only explanation was that during the second World War, his brothers gave a good account of themselves with the Marines in Guadal-canal and he himself was kept in the United States and never had the opportunity to go overseas. Gearhart stated that he was trying to show that he was being a good citizen and could offer something to his country.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Miss Veronica De Nier, information clerk at the Los Angeles Biltmore Hotel, notified the Department that she had observed a registration card bearing the name of Sirhan Sirhan on June 1, 1968. A detailed and complete investigation into the matter exposed the allegation to have been fabricated by two hotel employees.

The Allegation

Miss De Nier was interviewed on June 25, 1968. She stated that she remembered observing a registration card bearing the name of Sirhan Sirhan in the card rack at the Biltmore Hotel on June 1, 1968. She showed the card to a co-employee, Eva Grecco; and the two of them showed the card to hotel typist, Lucy Boothe, remarking that the name was unusual.

De Nier reported that after the assassination she and Grecco discussed the coincidence of Sirhan's stay at the hotel just prior to the shooting. They checked the guest register but were unable to find a record of Sirhan's stay. She stated that the hotel management had removed all records of Sirhan's registration and had admonished employees not to reveal Sirhan's stay at the hotel.

Mrs. Grecco verified De Nier's statement about seeing the registration card on June 1st and about showing the card to Boothe. She added that after seeing Sirhan's photograph on television she recalled giving him a room key on June 1, 1968. She stated that Sirhan was with a man who was sending a telegram.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The two men walked to the stairway and engaged in a conversation, which she could not hear. She remembered the telegram was directed to Loma Linda University and the contents read in part "Arrived from Bagdad."

She stated that she had been cautioned by the hotel management not to reveal any information, but could not remember who admonished her. She reported that she was unable to locate the registration card and suggested that the hotel management had probably removed all records of Sirhan's registration.

The Investigation

Other employees of the hotel were contacted by investigators. Lucy Boothe stated that De Nier and Grecco showed her a card which contained a foreign sounding name, but it was not Sirhan Sirhan. She could not remember the name or the date of the incident. Hotel Resident Manager Thomas O'Hara, Assistant Manager Andrew Martin and Security Officer Mark Hendricks all denied concealing the card or admonishing employees to remain silent concerning Sirhan registering at the Biltmore.

The telegram referred to by Grecco was located. It was sent to Dr. John Peterson, resident physician at Loma Linda University and stated "Arrived yesterday, May 31st from Bagdad, staying Biltmore Hotel. Signed Der Hagopian." Dr. Peterson was interviewed and stated that the person sending the telegram was Dr. Moses Der Hagopian, a medical doctor practicing in Bagdad, who visited him while Hagopian stayed at Loma Linda University. The visit lasted twelve days, during which time Dr. Hagopian did some advance research on the treatment of diabetes.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Investigation revealed that Dr. Hagopian arrived in Los Angeles on June 1, 1968, and returned to Bagdad, Iraq, on June 13, 1968. Hagopian was not interviewed, however, because the Biltmore Hotel investigation did not begin until June 25, 1968.

Investigators reviewed hotel registration records from 1963 through June 1968 and found no registration in the name of Sirhan Sirhan. The Biltmore Hotel's registrations are typed on a continuous roll of paper which is kept as a permanent record. The roll, including guests from May 31, 1968, to June 4, 1968, was examined for cuts, splices or other alterations and none were found. There were no indications that anyone tampered with the records.

Reinterviews with De Nier and Grecco resulted in the following discrepancies: Miss De Nier stated the name on the registration was Sirhan Sirhan; Grecco was insistent that it was Sirhan B. Sirhan. Mrs. Grecco viewed a packet of photographs and identified a photo of Sirhan as the man to whom she gave the room key. It was noted that this was the photograph that received wide circulation via television and the press after the assassination. She was shown a second group of photographs containing two other photographs of Sirhan, and she stated she had not given the key to any of the men in that group.

Conclusions

The allegation that Sirhan registered at the Biltmore Hotel on June 1, 1968, was proven to be false through a check of the hotel records. Investigation into Sirhan's background and

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

activities indicated that he had not been at the Biltmore Hotel. The persons making the allegation, De Nier and Grecco, would not change their stories or any of the statements they originally made. It could not be determined what prompted them to make the allegation.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

John Fahey became the subject of an investigation by the F.B.I. and this Department after reporting that he had met a woman, prior to the assassination of Robert Kennedy, who told him that the assassination would occur. Fahey described a complicated series of events involving this woman and two males who allegedly threatened and followed him. Fahey identified Munir Sirhan as a man who followed and threatened him. He also identified Sirhan Sirhan as being involved. Fahey became involved with a newspaper writer, Fernando Faura and the Fahey allegations were publicized.

John Fahey was given a polygraph examination by this Department and it was determined that he was being untruthful. Fahey subsequently admitted that he had fabricated his story of a conspiracy. Interviews with witnesses and inconsistencies in his statements repudiated his allegations. An account of the John Fahey investigation follows:

On June 6, 1968, John Fahey described the following events to investigators at the F.B.I. Office in Los Angeles. Fahey stated that on June 4, 1968, at 9 a.m., he was at the Ambassador Hotel Coffee Shop to keep an appointment. His expected appointment did not arrive. He observed two Latin appearing men speaking a foreign language but disregarded their presence.

Fahey met and engaged in conversation an attractive woman whom he noticed outside the coffee shop. He and the woman went into

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the shop for breakfast. The woman told Fahey that she needed help obtaining a passport and that she was involved in something that she could not divulge to him. She gave him several first names before stating that her name was Gilderdine Oppenheimer.

The woman agreed to drive to the Oxnard - Ventura area on Fahey's business calls. As they were leaving the restaurant the woman indicated to him that they were being watched and looked toward one of the Latin males Fahey had observed earlier. Fahey subsequently selected a photograph of Munir Sirhan as having a close resemblance to this man.

En route to Oxnard the woman told Fahey that she was involved with a group planning to "take care of" Senator Kennedy. The woman was upset and told Fahey that they were being followed by a blue Volkswagon. He stopped his vehicle near a large boulder in a roadside park and the driver of the blue Volkswagon stopped beside his vehicle and stared at him. This vehicle then drove away.

Fahey continued to Ventura and returned to Los Angeles at 7:30 p.m. Fahey left the woman at the Ambassador, intending not to become involved with her.

On June 5, 1968, Fahey learned of the assassination of Kennedy and the search for a woman. He gave the above account to the F.B.I.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Subsequent Interviews

John Fahey was subsequently interviewed several times by the F.B.I. and this Department. During these interviews he elaborated upon his original account and gave inconsistent versions of the events.

During an interview by the F.B.I. on June 7, 1968, he asserted that there were two vehicles following him. The other vehicle was a late model Ford which was the first vehicle to follow him. The woman had acknowledged that the vehilces were a part of the "group."

On June 18, 1968, Fahey reported that the blue Volkswagon had followed him again. This allegedly occurred that same day, June 18th. Fahey did not obtain the license number though he had been advised to do so by the F.B.I.

F.B.I. investigators retraced the Oxnard trip with Fahey and he expanded on the incident near the boulder. He stated that the driver of the Volkswagon alighted from the vehicle and stared at him. During this interview he also stated that he had stopped at the same location before the Volkswagon arrived and that he had carried the woman to a deserted life guard station where they talked for ten to fifteen minutes.

Mr. Ron Smith, Fahey's employer, advised investigators that Fahey told him that the man in the Volkswagon had pulled out a gun and held it in his hand when he stared at Fahey. No other interviewee related that Fahey had described a gun. Fahey denied

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

to investigators that he made this statement to Smith.

Fahey indicated that he stopped at a gas station and a restaurant with the woman. F.B.I. investigators interviewed witnesses at these locations who indicated that on June 4, 1968, at the times indicated, they did not see Fahey in their business. Vera Walker, a waitress at the Ambassador Hotel, stated that she had not seen Fahey, or a woman fitting the description given by Fahey, at the Coffee Shop; however, she reported that Fahey had questioned her sometime after June 4th to determine her recollection of his being at the Coffee Shop.

Fahey's Involvement with Fernando Faura

On June 19, 1968, Fahey advised the F.B.I. that he had related his story to a free lance writer, Fernando Faura. Fahey told the F.B.I. that after he had told them his story he had read an article by Faura in the Hollywood Citizen News relating to a woman involved in the assassination. He contacted Faura who was very excited about Fahey's story about the woman.

Fahey stated that Faura identified himself with a Los Angeles Police Department "Press Pass" and took him to an office at the San Fernando Police Station. Faura acted very officially and a Lieutenant Stein at the San Fernando Police Department treated Faura as if he were connected with that department.

Faura arranged for a tape recording to be made of Fahey's story. On June 13, 1968, Faura advised the Intelligence Division of this Department that he had a confidential informant who had information regarding the Kennedy assassination. An interview

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

was arranged with investigators. Fahey was introduced as the informant and the tape was heard. It was found to be an elaborated version of the report previously made to the F.B.I.

As a result of the tape, several statements were found to conflict with the F.B.I. investigation; a thorough investigation was made into the allegations and inconsistencies of Fahey's statement. Fahey subsequently advised investigators, that Faura was a great problem to him during the investigation. Fahey contended that Faura had influenced his thinking greatly, to the extent that he began accepting Faura's theories as fact.

Fahey related several incidents to investigators regarding Faura. On August 24, 1968, Faura took Fahey to a hypnotist, Dr. Ray La Scola, M.D., who had agreed to hypnotize Fahey to learn more of the incident. La Scola stated to investigators that he believed that he was assisting in an official investigation because he was introuduced to Faura by a San Fernando Police Department lieutenant.

Fahey stated that he told Faura that he was apprehensive about hypnosis and wanted to observe another man being hypnotized. La Scola hypnotized a Charles Dirks who related incidents about the assassination. La Scola stated to investigators that during this hypnotic session that Fahey became very excited about Dirks' responses and nodded in agreement when Dirks described a girl he had seen at the Ambassador Hotel. La Scola related that after the hypnotic session Fahey told him of the remarks the woman made to Fahey on June 4, 1968. Fahey used words such as

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"assassination, shooting and shot" when describing the woman's statement. La Scola also stated that Fahey told him he took the woman to a motel in the valley area. Fahey had denied any sexual activity with the woman to investigators. Though scheduled for an appointment with La Scola, Fahey did not show up for his appointment to be hypnotized.

Charles Dirks had been present at the Ambassador Hotel the night of the assassination. He was questioned immediately after the shooting by investigators and he related no signficant observations at the Ambassador Hotel. Subsequently he told Faura, whom he knew previously, that he recalled seeing a man who looked like Sirhan and an unattrative woman dressed like a "student demonstrator" the night of the assassination. Faura became very excited at this information. He introduced Dirks to Fahey and tried to connect the woman Dirks had seen and the woman Fahey was alleged to have met. Dirks felt that Faura was leading him and stated that he did not accept his statements. He did submit to being hypnotized but felt that he never was really under hypnosis.

On August 30, 1968, Mr. Chris Gugas, a licensed polygraph operator, administered a polygraph examination on John Fahey. The examination was arranged by Faura. Mr. Jordan Bonfante, Bureau Chief of Time-Life Magazine in Los Angeles, was present at the test.

Mr. Gugas stated to investigators that he felt that Fahey had been truthful during the examination. He felt that no one could

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

tell such a convincing story unless he was telling a truthful story. He admitted that his test had not contained sufficient questions to fully evaluate Fahey's truthfulness. He stated that he received a reaction to two questions during the test. These questions had to do with Fahey's being followed on June 4th and whether he felt that his life had been in danger on that date. Gugas could not explain these reactions to investigators.

John Fahey had shown on his saleman's log for June 4, 1968, that he had been at the business of Mr. Paul Woo located in Sun Valley. Mr. Woo stated in his interview that Fahey definitely had not been to his business in the month of June. Woo further stated that the last time he had seen Fahey was around May 15, 1968. At that time Fahey introduced Fernando Faura to Woo. Faura showed Woo his press pass and told Woo that he was gathering information for a story on "China Airlines." This information was the first indication to investigators that Fahey may have known Faura prior to the assassination.

The investigation disclosed several discrepancies which tended to place doubt on the Fahey account.

1. Through an independent investigation it was learned that Munir Sirhan, tentatively identified by Fahey, was at work during the time that Fahey alleged that he saw him.

2. Fahey's addition of a second vehicle to the incident was a significant change in his story. Fahey's retelling of the incident near the boulder contained numerous differences.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

3. Fahey changed his story to include carrying the woman to the life guard station, though he denied having sexual relations with the woman.

4. Fahey claimed that he made no account calls on June 4, 1968. Mr. Callahan, of Cal Rod Rambler in Oxnard, recalled that Fahey made a call at noon that day.

5. Witnesses at locations that Fahey claimed to have taken the woman denied seeing either of the two. One witness, a waitress at Trancas Restaurant, admitted that Fahey looked familiar.

6. Fahey's employment history was documented by the F.B.I., Without exception he was described by his previous employers as being emotionally unstable, highly irritable and unreliable. Fahey's current employer, Mr. Ron Smith, described him as only a fair employee.

7. Possible residences of the woman suggested by Fahey were checked and provided no substantiation to his claims.

8. During an interview on June 14, 1968, Fahey advised investigators that one of the two men at the Coffee Shop was definitely Sirhan Sirhan.

Polygraph Examination of John Fahey

Due to the many discrepancies in his statements Fahey was asked to take a polygraph examination. On September 5, 1968, Fahey agreed to an examination to be conducted by Lieutenant Hernandez. During the course of the examination, physiological tracings at points where crucial key questions were asked, strongly indicated that Fahey was not being completely truthful.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Fahey was asked, "Since Senator Kennedy was assassinated, have you lied to any police officer?" He responded "No." He responded "Yes" when asked "Have you ever seen Sirhan Sirhan in person?" When asked "Did any woman tell you of a plan to assassinate Senator Kennedy on June 4, 1968?" Fahey responded "Yes". In the opinion of the examiner Fahey was being untruthful in his answers.

Fahey answered truthfully when he was later asked the following relevant questions: "Do you honestly believe that you have ever seen Sirhan Sirhan in person?" Answer: "No" "Do you honestly believe that you have ever seen Munir Sirhan in person?" Answer: "No."

Fahey asked to talk to investigators on September 9, 1968, in order to clarify the situation. Fahey stated that he had actually picked up a woman at the Ambassador Hotel on June 4th and spent the day with her. The rest of the story had been a figment of his imagination. He had elaborated on certain actual events which had occurred but which were not related to the Kennedy assassination. Though Fahey admitted that the story was false he would not accept responsibility for his erroneous report. He advised investigators that he believed that Faura had strongly influenced him into thinking that what he had told the police had actually occurred.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Mrs. Anita Stewart contacted Los Angeles County Sheriffs Intelligence Division on June 5, 1968, and stated that she overheard James Hoffa, Jr. make a threatening statement against Senator Robert F. Kennedy eleven months prior to the shooting. An investigation of the allegation proved it to be false.

The Allegation

Mrs. Stewart, a nineteen year old housewife, contacted Sergeant Lee Stahl, Sheriffs Intelligence Division after a visit with her husband James Stewart, who was in County Jail awaiting trial for burglary. She stated that James Hoffa, Jr., son of the imprisoned teamster official, visited the offices of Insurance Broker, Leonard Davis, Anita Stewart's father. The meeting was in the early part of July 1967, and included a man named Tuffy (Theron) Tyson, Davis and a man Stewart described as male Caucasion, early twenties, sun tanned. She never heard his name, but thought he referred to James Hoffa as his father. The meeting involved an insurance program for the Teamsters Union and Stewart was attending it because of her employment at her father's office. A conversation concerning Senator Kennedy's possibility of being elected president resulted in the man Stewart thought to be Hoffa stating something to the effect that if Kennedy were elected, he would be "rubbed out." She could not remember the exact conversation but added that it was mentioned that Senator Kennedy had exerted an unusual amount of harassment against James Hoffa, Sr.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

A Second Allegation

Mrs. Stewart alleged that a second suspicious conversation took place during the meeting. The second suspicious conversation concerned a man who had "opened his mouth" to authorities. She stated she did not hear the entire conversation and thought that the men present didn't want her to be aware of it. She stated that during the conversation Davis circled an area in a street guide with a felt tip pen. She observed the area to be in Encino.

The next day she heard on the news that a car bombing had taken place in Encino.

During the interview with Sergeant Stahl, Anita Stewart added that she had received an anonymous telephone call from a man with a deep voice at 4 a.m., on June 5, 1968. The man stated "Forget everything you heard in Lennie's office (Davis) or you won't live to tell about it."

James Stewart advised Sergeant Stahl that he was acquainted with Sirhan, that he knew him as John and had met him at Gazzarri's Hollywood A GoGo Night Club in West Hollywood. Stewart stated that he first saw Sirhan at the nightclub just after Christmas in 1967, where Stewart was parking cars.

Due to the seriousness of the allegation against James Hoffa, Jr., whose father was prosecuted by the Department of Justice while Robert Kennedy was Attorney General, an investigation was begun.

The Investigation

Mr. Leonard Davis stated that he remembered a meeting with Theron

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Tyson in July, 1967. The meeting was an effort to secure an insurance loan for the Teamsters Union and Tyson represented the Union. Davis stated there were only three men at the meeting, himself, Tyson and a man with Tyson, whose name Davis couldn't recall. He described the unnamed individual as male Caucasion, in his thirties, short, curly hair, with a very flat nose. The man did not participate in the conversation and Davis does not know why he attended. Davis stated that his daughter was at the meeting. She began employment at his office on June 26, 1967. He denied that James Hoffa, Jr., had ever been in his office or that he had attended the meeting. He stated that he did not circle any street guides, was not involved in a bombing and that a threat was not made against Robert Kennedy in his office.

Mr. Davis advised investigators that his daughter is a pathological liar and has a vivid imagination. He related that she called him at 9 a.m., on June 5, 1968, and stated, "Gee Daddy, I hope they don't investigate you about this Kennedy deal." When he asked what she meant, she stated, "You know what you and Tuffy were talking about." When he queried her further, she stated, "Never mind, forget about it." Davis stated that Anita Stewart needs psychiatric care but he has been unable to convince her to see a doctor.

Davis stated that Tyson informed him that loans had been difficult to secure since James Hoffa had been jailed and it was the only time Hoffa was mentioned.

Mr. Theron Tyson stated that he was at a meeting in Davis's office during July 1967. He verified the purpose of the meeting

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

to be an insurance loan venture for the Teamsters Union. He recalled Anita Stewart being present at the meeting.

Tyson stated there were no threats made against Robert Kennedy. The fact that James Hoffa, Sr., was threatened in San Francisco, in 1961, was mentioned during the conversation, but only in an offhand way. Tyson stated that he knows James Hoffa, Jr., personally, and that Hoffa was never present at Davis's office or at any of their business meetings.

Mr. James Hoffa, Jr., stated that he is an attorney and does not work for the Teamsters Union. He had never been in the offices of Leonard Davis and was not in Los Angeles during June or July 1967, or June 1968. He is acquainted with Theron Tyson but not Davis.

Mr. James Stewart was reinterviewed and shown a photograph of Sirhan. He stated that his first identification was in error, that he had not observed Sirhan at Gazzarri's Nightclub.

Mrs. Anita Stewart was reinterviewed and stated that she received the threatening phone call on June 6, 1968, not the day of the shooting. She was shown a photograph of James Hoffa, Jr., and was unable to identify the person in the picture as the person in her father's office.

Summary of the Investigation

The initial identification of James Hoffa, Jr., by Anita Stewart was not positive according to her own statements. She did not hear anyone call him by that name, was not introduced to him and

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

only inferred that his name was Hoffa because of the conversation. She was not able to identify his photograph as the man she observed at the meeting. She described the man as being in his twenties, Hoffa is thirty-seven.

Mrs. Stewart insisted that she received the reported threatening phone call on June 6, 1968. She made the report to Los Angeles County Sheriff's Intelligence Division on June 5, 1968.

Mrs. Stewart reported the car bombing in Encino took place the day after she reported hearing the conversation in Davis's office. Records show she did not begin her employment at Davis's office until June 26, 1967. The car bombing referred to took place on June 18, 1967 (The Covelli bombing), eight days before she began work.

Due to the inconsistencies in Stewart's statements and the fact that the events referred to by her occurred after she alleged them to have happened, investigators discounted her allegation. The denials of Davis and Tyson that Hoffa was present at the meeting in question substantiated this conclusion. The motive for Stewarts' allegation could not be determind, however, investigators speculated that her personal conflict with her father, Davis may have motivated her to make the statement.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

MISCELLANEOUS INCIDENTS

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Stanley W. Johnson, 503 North Howard Street, Glendale, called Glendale Chief of Police Duane Baker on November 12, 1968, and advised him that his daughter was acquainted with someone who attended some sort of meetings at the Sirhan residence in Pasadena.

Chief Baker forwarded this information to investigators via the District Attorney's Office, along with information that investigators should use caution when contacting Johnson to avoid letting his daughter find out it was he who had notified the police. The only information Johnson could furnish about the person involved was the name "Tony," and the fact that he was Arabian.

Mr. Johnson was contacted in Glendale on November 13, 1968, at 7 p.m. He advised investigators that a girl named Candace Green, 327 Ivy Street, was dating a man known as "Tony" and that she had accompanied him to the Sirhan home in Pasadena. Johnson stated this information came from his eighteen-year-old daughter, Barbara, and may or may not have been completely factual. Mr. Johnson accompanied investigators while they contacted both Barbara Johnson and Candace Green.

Miss Barbara Ann Johnson, age 18, 503 North Howard Street, was interviewed on November 13, 1968, at 7:40 p.m., in Glendale. She stated that the man Candace Green was dating was Antoine F. Khoury, 405 North Howard Street. Miss Johnson stated that Miss Green had reported going to a residence in Pasadena after

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Kennedy assassination and hearing Arabic spoken, but she had not elaborated upon it.

Miss Candace Susan Green, age 19, 327 West Ivy Street, Glendale, was interviewed in Glendale on November 13, 1968, at 8:45 p.m. She stated that she did know and had been dating Antoine Khoury; that he was from the Middle East, had been going to school and was presently working in a department store in Glendale.

She stated that she had accompanied Khoury to a home in Pasadena, where she met two women, an older one, and her forty-year-old daughter. She could not remember where it was or what the people's names were. She stated that this took place approximately one-and-one-half weeks after the assassination. The four of them were the only ones there. It was not a meeting but a social gathering and conversation did not touch upon the Sirhans or the Mid-East situation. She stated the only Arabic spoken was in small amounts which appeared to be expressive phrases or jokes. There was no extended conversation which she could not understand. She stated that she had not met any of the Sirhans, nor were any of them at this location. Khoury told Green that he knew the Sirhan family, but she stated that she did not believe him.

Miss Green stated that she accompanied Khoury to The Fez Restaurant in Hollywood several times. They went on weekends to the upstairs room. She did not overhear any serious discussions while at The Fez.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Interview with Khoury

Antoine Fouad Khoury, 405 North Howard Street, Glendale, was interviewed at his place of business, Webb's Department Store, 119 North Brand, Glendale, on November 14, 1968, at 9:30 a.m. Khoury stated that he knew a Linda Kamakian and had visited her home on several occasions. He had met Saidallah Sirhan at her home approximately six months prior to the assassination. He only met him on the one occasion, but recalled observing the same person playing a musical instrument at The Fez. Khoury did not know or remember observing any other members of the Sirhan family. He stated that to the best of his knowledge, the Kamakians are friends of the Sirhans.

Khoury denied being a member of any organization comprised of people from the Middle East. His only affiliation is with the Glendale International Club, a group sponsored by the Glendale Y.W.C.A. This organization was disbanded in the summer of 1967 and was purely a social club established to assist foreigners to become acquainted with their community. This was verified by Mrs. Betty Lewis, advisor at the Y.W.C.A.

Khoury stated that he went to The Fez Restaurant occasionally for purely social reasons. The last time he went to The Fez was in the middle of October, 1968. Khoury stated that he had no prior knowledge of the Kennedy assassination and was genuinely shocked by it. He had not overheard any conversation since that time that would indicate to him that there was a conspiracy.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Summary

The visit to the home of a friend by Khoury and a small amount of Arabic conversation, coupled with the allegation that the Kamakians were friends of the Sirhan family, caused two teenagers to create a potentially interesting story. Their story, when related to Mr. Johnson, sounded plausible enough to make him suspicious and he notified the authorities.

The investigation disclosed that Linda Kamakian was, in fact, a friend of the Sirhan family. The Kamakians met the Sirhans through a church picnic in 1960. Khoury also knew the Kamakians, but he did not become friends with the Sirhan family. Khoury never met Sirhan Sirhan.

Detective Heatherington, Pasadena Police Department, reported that the officers conducting the twenty-four hour, around-the-clock, security detail at the Sirhan home had not observed any unusual groups, activities or large numbers of visitors.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

INCIDENT AT SAN FERNANDO VALLEY COLLEGE

Report of a Bomb Threat

At approximately 7:40 p.m., Wednesday, May 15, 1968, Officer Douglas Hicks, Valley Services Communication Division, received a telephone call from an unknown male. The caller said that his brother had been talking for two weeks about planting some kind of explosive in the "Kennedy thing at Valley College". He said his brother had been talking as if he were going to blow up the Auditorium. His brother left with a paper bag, and the caller had looked for three hours but was unable to locate him. The caller said he did not want a radio car to come to his residence because he didn't want his brother to get into trouble. He just didn't want anyone to get hurt. The caller then hung up.

Valley Services Division notified Sgt. W. Burke, Watch Commander of Van Nuys Patrol. He contacted Lieutenant Courtial at the Business Office Division and Intelligence Division; and, Officer R. D. Bennett was sent to Valley College to contact the security officer. It was learned Senator Kennedy was to arrive at Valley College at 8:15 p.m. Burke assigned four motor units and two "A" units to meet him at Valley College.

While en route, Burke requested four additional "A" units. They were instructed to report to Ethel Street and Campus Drive where the Command Post was to be located. As the officers arrived, they were assigned to clear a walkway overpass, check the route of travel for suspects and watch for problems relative to the

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

security of Senator Kennedy.

Bennett and the four motor units were assigned to meet the Kennedy Party at Ethel Street and Burbank Boulevard to provide security and an escort into the men's gym. The Kennedy Party arrived and the crowd awaiting his arrival surged forward. The assigned officers attempted to keep the crowd away from Senator Kennedy.

Members of the Kennedy Staff asked the officers in rather crude terms to allow the crowd all the freedom they wanted. They used remarks such as "Gestapo," "Typical L.A. Police gestapo tactics," "Fascists," "We don't need your help!" We don't care if you have received a threat." These remarks were made to Sgt. Mc Mullen and Officers Markowitz, Vreeland, Van Bibber and Johnson who continued to escort the Senator into the gymnasium. Other officers remained in the gymnasium to observe the crowd for suspected assassins.

Small Object Reportedly Strikes Kennedy

Senator Kennedy left the gymnasium at 10 p.m. As the Kennedy Party traveled northbound on Ethel Street beneath the pedestrian overpass, a small missile (possible flash bulb) was reported to have struck Senator Kennedy on the forehead. Officer P. J. Piampiano saw the object and described it as very small. The Kennedy Party continued being escorted by the four motor units. The escort stayed with the Kennedy Party until they reached the Ventura Freeway at Coldwater Canyon. There were no reported injuries by the Kennedy Party.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The Los Angeles Police Department was advised by Mr. Max Berman that on May 18, 1968 while in Israel, he was told by a hotel employee that Senator Kennedy had been shot. Berman at the time was in the company of twelve other people on a tour. Berman in turn told the other members of the tour. He believed the broadcast originated from the British Broadcasting Corporation and was in French.

Berman checked the local newspapers in Israel and listened to the radio but could find nothing to verify the information. Some of the other members of the tour claimed they heard the news from the tour guide, Jacob Henigan.

Lieutenant Colonel Pullum (Retired) was in Czechoslovakia during May 1968 participating in a shooting match when inquiries were made by the Russian team as to whether he had heard of any plot to assassinate Senator Kennedy.

Three other persons living in various parts of the United States received letters from relatives living in Czechoslovakia inquiring about Senator Kennedy being shot. They claim to have heard the news on the radio in May 1968.

Two other individuals were on a flight in the Middle-East when they heard of an attempted assassination on Senator Kennedy, but this information did not come from a broadcast and was only conversation among the passengers.

An inquiry was made of the British Broadcasting Company regarding

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

such a broadcast, and after checking their records no such news release could be located. However, it was learned that the Reuter's news agency had teleprinted a story on May 16, 1968, red. regarding a stone-throwing incident that occurred at Los Angeles Valley College.

16,

Mr. Clifford E. Kerns, the tour director of Brownell Tours who was in Israel accompanying the group, never heard any comment regarding an attempted assassination and feels that if such a thing was said, he would have known. He also denied that any such statement was made by the tour guide, Jacob Henigan.

A total of sixteen persons allegedly heard some comment regarding an attempted assassination, but none of them would state that they actually heard a news broadcast or read it in a newspaper. In each case the information was "secondhand" and was in the form of a rumor.

It was concluded that in all probability the witnesses were referring to an incident that occurred on May 15, 1968, at Los Angeles Valley College.

On that date Senator Kennedy was leaving the men's gym after delivering a campaign speech. While passing under an overpass, a small object fell from overhead and struck him on the forehead. The object was possibly a flashbulb since there were numerous individuals taking pictures from the overpass.

The Senator suffered no injuries and there was no medical treatment requird. This occurrence was verified by a statement made

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

by Senator Kennedy's press secretary, Frank Mankiewicz, who commented that a flashbulb had fallen near the Senator but that neither the Senator nor any member of his party was injured.

Information was received from Special Agent R. J. LaJeuness, F.B.I., that overseas radio broadcasts for the period of May 16, 1968, were checked and that no broadcast was made in any part of Europe regarding Senator Kennedy being shot or injured.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

On June 19, 1968, Art Kevin, Special Projects coordinator for KHJ Television and Radio, recorded a telephonic interview with Harold Weisberg. Weisberg stated that he was writing a book dealing with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, which reportedly contained information about a conspiracy between Lee Harvey Oswald and the Central Intelligence Agency. Kevin submitted a copy of the tape recording to the Department on June 25, 1968.

The voice on the recording, which Kevin identified as Harold Weisberg, stated that he had an informant who called him on March 9, 1968, and advised him that Senator Robert F. Kennedy had made a speech in the San Fernando Valley a few days prior. The informant also told Weisberg that Kennedy had examined evidence involving the John Kennedy assassination in the National Archives and was satisfied that the Warren Commission findings were correct. He told Weisberg that Kennedy's statement was incorrect and that Senator Kennedy could not have seen the National Archives. The informant stated that there were too many "guns" between the Senator and the White House and implied that there was a C.I.A. conspiracy involved. In the event Senator Kennedy were elected president, the informant stated, Kennedy would be in a position to review the C.I.A. involvement in his brothers death.

Weisberg further stated to Kevin that he saw the same informant in New York on June 10, 1968. He was then advised by

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the informant that he had received information in early May that an attempt would be made on Senator Kennedy's life in California and that it would take place in a crowd. The informant stated that he had gotten word to the Kennedy "camp" approximately three weeks prior to the shooting, but that the Kennedy staff was not adequately concerned about the information. The informant stated that he felt that this was probably an extension of Senator Kennedy's attitudes.

Weisberg refused to disclose the identity of his informant to Kevin. He stated that the informant was also involved in reporting the alleged conspiracy surrounding the President Kennedy assassination. Kevin asked Weisberg if the information about the assassination attempt had been received by Senator Kennedy and Weisberg answered that he had no personal knowledge about it.

Investigators contacted Weisberg by telephone on June 27, 1968. He repeated the statement made to Kevin and added that he and his informant had discussed the information with New Orleans District Attorney James Garrison.

The informant would not reveal his source of information about the alleged attempt that was to be made on Senator Kennedy's life, to Weisberg. Weisberg in turn, would not reveal the identity of his informant to investigators, but he did state that his informant was a man in his 40's, with famous show business parents, who shuns publicity.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Weisberg stated several times that he was without funds and requested investigators to arrange some paid television interviews for him in the Los Angeles area. Weisberg was unable to furnish any information resulting from his personal knowledge and refused to allow investigators to contact his informant. Investigators were unable to develop any further information concerning this testimony and the investigation was suspended pending new developments.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

CORONA CHECK INVESTIGATION

On December 5, 1968, C.I.I. Agent John Diemel furnished investigators with various reports from the Corona Police Department involving a stolen and forged check. The concerned check was a payroll check dated November 14, 1966, made out to Sirhan Sirhan by the Altfillisch Construction Company and was signed by Laura Krause, bookkeeper at the Granja Vista Del Rio Ranch. On December 8, 1968, an article appeared in the Los Angeles Times entitled "Sirhan Linked to Bad Check." Other newspaper articles appeared in the Riverside-Corona area and it was inferred that Sirhan was involved in the cashing of a stolen check.

On December 9, 1968, investigators went to the Corona Police Department and interviewed the Assistant Chief of Police, C. B. Biggers. He was shown the newspaper clippings which quoted Corona Chief of Police Joseph Greer as saying, "Sirhan is believed to have endorsed and cashed the check." Biggers denied that the Chief had made such a comment and confirmed the fact that the Corona Police Department had received a forgery report covering the incident. He stated the case was now closed since no identification was taken at the time the check was cashed.

The investigators advised the Chief that they wished to make a follow-up of the circumstances regarding the incident for the purpose of determining any effect the incident might have on our overall investigation. With the approval and complete cooperation of the Corona Police Department, the investigation determined the following:

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The check was a regular payroll check made out to Sirhan and stolen from the tackroom at the ranch prior to delivery to him. Various canceled checks of individuals employed at the ranch were checked and one made out to Kenneth Blay (a former employee) and endorsed by him showed similarity to the handwriting of the forged document. Additional samples of Kenneth Blay's handwriting were obtained from the Riverside Sheriff's Department. Detective Purkiss, handwriting expert of that department, examined the documents. He offered the opinion that the writing on the forged instrument was written by the same person who had written on the Kenneth Blay check.

Frances Hatten, owner of Hatten Grocery Store, was interviewed and recalled cashing the forged check but remembered nothing else. She was shown the check by investigators and identified a series of numbers written on the check and identified these as numbers taken off a California Operator's License. This was the store's normal procedure in cashing checks. According to Frances Hatten, no one else was present when the check was cashed.

Kenneth Blay, a resident of Corona, was interviewed at his residence; and after being told that the officers were there solely to investigate the possible connection between the stolen check and the Kennedy assassination, he admitted taking, endorsing and cashing the stolen check. He further added that he was formerly employed at the ranch and that he took the check from the tackroom and cashed it at the Hatten Grocery Store in Corona.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The documents were also checked by Examiner of Questioned Documents Larry Sloan of the District Attorney's Office who offered the opinion that the endorsement was most probably that of Kenneth Blay.

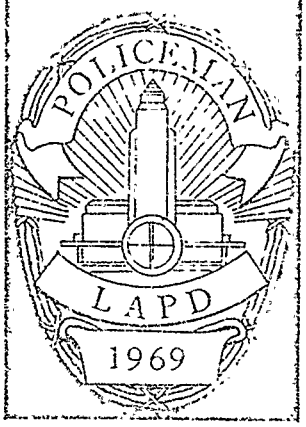
The number R005308 that appears on the rear of the check was checked with the Department of Motor Vehicles. This number was assigned to a Class Three license issued October 3, 1967, to Joyce Marie Peglow, 12817 Tomahawk Lane, Norwalk.

Mrs. Peglow was interviewed and denied any knowledge of the incident and produced a California Operator's License bearing the same number. She further added that at no time did she loan her license to anyone and that she had never lost her license. She did recall that sometime during December 1967, a police officer from Lynwood interviewed her regarding a forged check from Corona.

Lieutenant Ralston, Lynwood Police Department, was interviewed and he stated that he had no knowledge of ever interviewing Mrs. Peglow, and that there was no record of the interview in his files. He commented that if his department had received a request from an outside jurisdiction, it was possible that the information would be telephoned to the requesting jurisdiction and that a official record might not be made.

Chief of Police Joseph W. Greer, Corona Police Department, was apprised of the findings, and he stated that his department is reinvestigating the forgery for possible further action.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

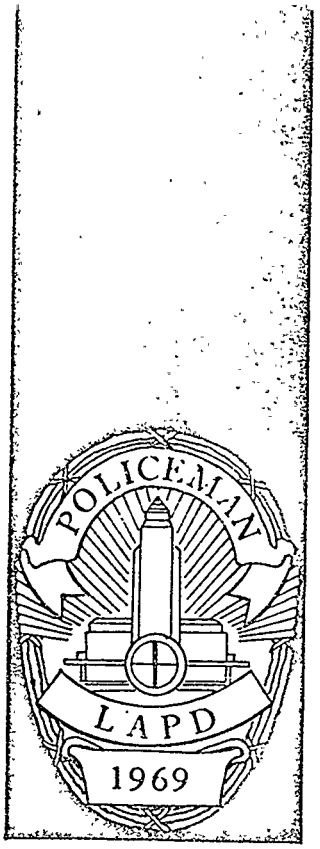


An INVESTIGATION SUMMARY of the SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

June 5, 1968

VOLUME V Pages 588-721
DETECTIVE BUREAU LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



An INVESTIGATION SUMMARY of the SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

The FINAL REPORT February 1969

SPECIAL UNIT SENATOR
DETECTIVE BUREAU – LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

VOLUME V

CASE PREPARATION FOR TRIAL

CHAPTER VI

CASE PREPARATION

CHAPTER VII

LEGAL PROCESSES (FROM ARREST TO TRIAL)

CHAPTER VIII

RELATED EVENTS OCCURRING SINCE THE ASSASSINATION

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

CASE PREPARATION

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

CASE PREPARATION FOR TRIAL

A three-man Case Preparation Team under the direction of a lieutenant was established within Special Unit Senator on June 12, 1968. The team was responsible for developing the Department's participation in the anticipated trial. Their primary duties were the interviewing of potential trial witnesses, the evaluation and preservation of evidence and the liaison between the District Attorney's Office and the Department.

Initial Investigation

The team was initially assigned the task of working with the statements and evidence gathered by Rampart Detectives between June 5 and June 11. The investigators familiarized themselves with the statements of the 127 witnesses interviewed by Rampart Detectives and made reinterviews where necessary. Two investigators from Rampart Detectives were carried over to S.U.S. for the investigation. A complete evaluation was made of the six-day investigation which had been made by Rampart Detective Division. Procedures for preservation and storage of evidence were immediately established, and a special evidence room was located within Room 803 at Parker Center. The evidence initially taken from the crime scene, the search of Sirhan's house and vehicle and evidence gathered at other locations between June 5 and June 11 was evaluated and sent to Scientific Investigation Division for analysis.

Liaison with The District Attorney

The Case Preparation Team maintained close contact with the

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Deputy District Attorneys prosecuting the case through weekly and often daily meetings which were held to coordinate plans for each phase of the prosecution. The investigators briefed the prosecutors on the value of the possible testimony of each prospective witness. This included a subjective evaluation of each witness's potential strength and weakness. The prosecutor, in turn, advised the investigators of areas which required reinvestigation or deeper exploration for trial purposes.

Production of Sound Movie

The Case Preparation Team edited the available film, both news media and private, which was made just prior to, during and after the shooting. A twenty-minute documentary of the events that occurred was produced. This film was shown to witnesses and victims to refresh their recollection of the incident and to assist them in the identification of persons whom they remembered seeing at the hotel.

Time Charts Used as Investigative Technique

Experimentation in the application of a PERT chart (Program Evaluation and Review Technique) and the results are described in the introduction to the report. While the use of the PERT chart was of limited value as an investigative tool in this investigation, it was a springboard to several innovative techniques that were of value. The first was a time chart depicting the hourly activities and location of Sirhan during the several critical days prior to the assassination. Use of this chart centered attention on periods in time needing additional investigative attention. It also was of great assistance

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

as a reference in evaluating the many allegations which placed Sirhan at a specific location at a certain time.

A second time based chart entitled Sirhan's Profile Analysis was initiated early in the investigation. This chart depicted his domiciles, schools, employment and habitats from his arrival in the United States to the time of the assassination. It proved to be a valuable visual aid as well as focusing attention on time gaps in the background phase of the investigation.

A third chart illustrated the comparative activities and locations of Kennedy and Sirhan from March 1968 to June 1968. This chart reveals the path-crossing in general geographic areas and the specific instances of what has been described as stalking.

Recreation of The Crime Scene

The shooting scene was photographed by Scientific Investigation Division, and based on witnesses' statements the location of each witness was marked with chalk on the floor. Photographs were then made of these marks. The pictures were then compared with photographs available from the night of the shooting. From these comparisons investigators attempted to formulate a tentative sketch of the location of each witness and victim.

Scale models were constructed of the pantry area and of the hotel itself. The model of the pantry measured 86" x 30" and was made on a scale of 1" = 1'. A model of the hotel measured 6' x 6' and was made on a scale of 1/8" = 1'. The pantry area model was sectioned off by grids, and numbers depicting witnesses were positioned on the model by grid coordinates. The models were

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

constructed by the Los Angeles Bureau of Engineers and the Los Angeles Planning Department, under the supervision of Sergeant A. J. LaVallee, Department Surveyor. These models were subsequently used to assist investigators and witnesses during the reenactment of the shooting conducted at the Ambassador Hotel.

Schematic 8" x 12" drawings of the first and second floors of the hotel and of the pantry were prepared to assist investigators in the interviewing of witnesses. A 3' x 5' map of the pantry was also made. These maps and models, with markings denoting locations, were photographed and preserved to establish as closely as possible the position of each witness. The true location of Sirhan at the time of the shooting was established as closely as possible by the statements of witnesses and through the use of photographs taken moments after the shooting.

Reenactment at The Hotel

It was especially important to this investigation that the location of various witnesses and victims be established. The crowded conditions in the pantry made this particularly difficult. It was critical that the statements of witnesses, when referring to what they saw of the shooting, be as accurate as possible. Such inconsistencies which might arise from seeing the shooting at different angles had to be resolved to prevent the prosecutor's case from appearing to conflict on its own witnesses' accounts.

On November 12 through November 15, 1968, the District Attorney's

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Office and the Case Preparation Team set up headquarters at the Ambassador Hotel. Key witnesses reviewed photographs and the scale model of the pantry. The twenty-minute motion picture produced from film contributed by the major television networks was shown. The witnesses then reenacted the shooting scene and personnel from the District Attorney's Office took motion pictures, video tapes and photographs. Each witness refreshed his memory from the comparison of the films. Using the model each made corrections as needed. At the conclusion of the reenactment, the Deputy District Attorneys noted the relative position of each participant.

On November 12, 1968, the following hotel employees participated:

Juan Romero
Jesus Perez
Martin Patrusky
Karl Uecker
Angelo Di Pierro
Vincent Di Pierro
Lisa Urso

On November 13, 1968, the following witnesses attended:

Frank Burns
Jesse Unruh
Rafer Johnson
Judy Royer
Robert Klase
Harold Burba

Burns and Johnson reenacted the capture of Sirhan and the recovery of the gun.

In attendance on November 14, 1968, were Criminologist Dwayne Wolfer and the following victims:

Paul Schrade
Ira Goldstein
Irwin Stroll
Elizabeth Evans

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The victims placed themselves in the pantry at the point where they stood as the first shot was fired. Wolfer checked these positions, verifying his findings as to the flight and direction of the bullets.

On November 15, the arresting officers participated in a walk-through starting from the time of their arrival, including the arrest, and escorting Sirhan from the hotel.

Evaluation of Witnesses

The Case Preparation Team initially made the identification of witnesses through the use of photographs and statements. Those who had not previously volunteered to make statements were identified, located and interviewed. All witnesses were asked to furnish the names of others whom they knew to have been present at the hotel. These persons were also interviewed. Investigators began by reviewing the Grand Jury transcript and statements of 127 interviews conducted prior to the formation of S.U.S. Reinterviews were made where additional information was required.

Several key witnesses who were present at the hotel were not interviewed prior to their leaving Los Angeles. Two members of the Case Preparation Team accompanied a Deputy District Attorney to Washington, D.C., to interview these persons, most of whom were Kennedy campaign officials and their associates. Most of these interviews were conducted; however, investigators were unable to interview members of the Kennedy family. The substance of the completed interviews was briefed and presented to the

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

District Attorney's Office for selection of trial witnesses.

Those witnesses who had contact with Sirhan prior to the assassination were also interviewed. These interviews were evaluated for their applicability in aiding the establishment of premeditation. The substance of these interviews was also included in those sent to the District Attorney.

Witnesses for The Trial

The group of witnesses most important to the prosecution were the seventy persons in the pantry area at the time of the shooting. Those who rushed into the kitchen and assisted in the capture were also important. Because the statements of various witnesses essentially duplicated one another, it was decided that only certain witnesses would be necessary.

The five witnesses closest to the Senator at the time of the shooting would be used for describing the shooting. These were Juan Romero, Karl Uecker, Frank Burns, Jesus Perez and Martin Patrusky. Witnesses Lisa Urso, Vincent Di Pierro, Harold Burba, Edward Mininsian and William Barry would be used to establish Sirhan's approach from the ice machine to the Senator and the capture of Sirhan.

It was decided that news media personnel would not be used as witnesses, to avoid any conflicts over which news service would be called to testify. An exception was necessarily made to allow two news media workers who had important evidence of the shooting. Ronald Bennett, a photographer for United Press

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

International, had flash equipment with him at the time of the shooting. His pictures were of higher quality than those taken by other news media personnel who lacked Bennett's lighting equipment. Andrew West, of Los Angeles Radio Station KRKD, was carrying a tape recorder as he walked behind Senator Kennedy. His taped account of the shooting and apprehension was considered of value to the prosecution.

Due to the security precautions necessary in the trial of Sirhan, it was decided that no portion of the trial would be moved to the crime scene for reenactment. Therefore, it was important to have visual aids to accurately recreate the crime scene. The construction of the mock-ups and the reenactments of November 12 through 15 was intended to serve this purpose.

Individuals who would establish premeditation were examined, evaluated and selected by the Case Preparation Team for testimony at the trial. These persons were those who could show that Sirhan took steps to prepare himself for the assassination. Mrs. Lee Brown, Everett Buckner, Henry Carreon, Melvin Grote, Stanley Grube, Albert Montague, David Montellano, Richard Sheldon, Mike Soccoman, Robert Talbot, Ronald Williams and Claudia Williams were chosen as potential witnesses to show that Sirhan practiced with a revolver, which appeared to be the murder weapon, at the San Gabriel Gun Club the day before the assassination.

George Erhard, William Price, Dana Westlake, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hertz and James Pineda would be used to establish the purchase and history of the murder weapon. Alvin Clark would testify to statements regarding Kennedy made by Sirhan in April, 1968.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Larry Arnot would testify to completing a sales receipt for .22 caliber ammunition which was found in Sirhan's vehicle. Mr. William Blume would testify to his observation of Sirhan at a Kennedy rally at the Ambassador Hotel on June 2, 1968.

Lawrence Sloan, a District Attorney's Office handwriting expert, would be used to identify handwriting samples taken in the search at Sirhan's house which showed premeditation. Judy Royer would testify to observing Sirhan in the anteroom outside the pantry just prior to the shooting. She told him to leave the room twice during the evening.

The officers involved in the arrest, various searches, gathering of evidence and the custody of Sirhan were advised to be prepared for a call to testify on the sequence of events involving the apprehension and investigation of Sirhan.

Several doctors and nurses were interviewed and advised of the decision that they would testify at the trial. Doctors who treated Senator Kennedy from Central Receiving Hospital, Good Samaritan Hospital and the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office would testify to the condition and cause of death of Kennedy. Doctors from Central Receiving Hospital and other local hospitals would be called to testify to the treatment of wounds to other victims. The testimony of these persons was important for maintaining continuity of evidence of the bullets and bullet fragments. Dr. Elvin Lanz would testify about the treatment to Sirhan's injuries. Dr. Lanz treated Sirhan at Homicide Division.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Synopses of witnesses statements were presented to the prosecuting attorneys. Conferences were held periodically with them regarding testimony and points of evidential value. The District Attorney's Office maintained the final responsibility for decisions as to which witnesses would be used for trial.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

INVESTIGATION OF PREMEDITATION

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

INVESTIGATION OF THE ASSASSINATION WEAPON

Manufacture and Original Purchase

The gun used by Sirhan Sirhan in the assassination of Robert Kennedy was an Iver Johnson, .22 caliber, Cadet Model, two-and-one-half inch barrel, blue steel finish, serial #H53725. The gun was manufactured on June 3, 1965, at the Iver Johnson Factory in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. It was shipped to the California Hardware Company, Los Angeles, California, on June 14, 1965. The California Hardware Company sold the gun to the Pasadena Gun Shop, 386 East Green Street, Pasadena, on July 21, 1965. The Pasadena Gun Shop went out of business in September, 1966.

James C. Pineda, a salesman, confirmed that Albert Leslie Hertz had purchased the gun from the Pasadena Gun Shop on August 10, 1965, at 9:30 a.m. Pineda identified a Dealers Record of Sale as being the receipt of the transaction. Both the receipt and CII records show Albert Leslie Hertz as the purchaser of the gun on that date.

Gun Traced to Sirhan Sirhan

Sarah Hertz, wife of Albert L. Hertz, stated to investigators that she gave the gun to her daughter, Dana Westlake. Westlake stated that she gave the gun to a neighbor, George Charles Erhard, Jr., sometime during the latter part of November or early December, 1967.

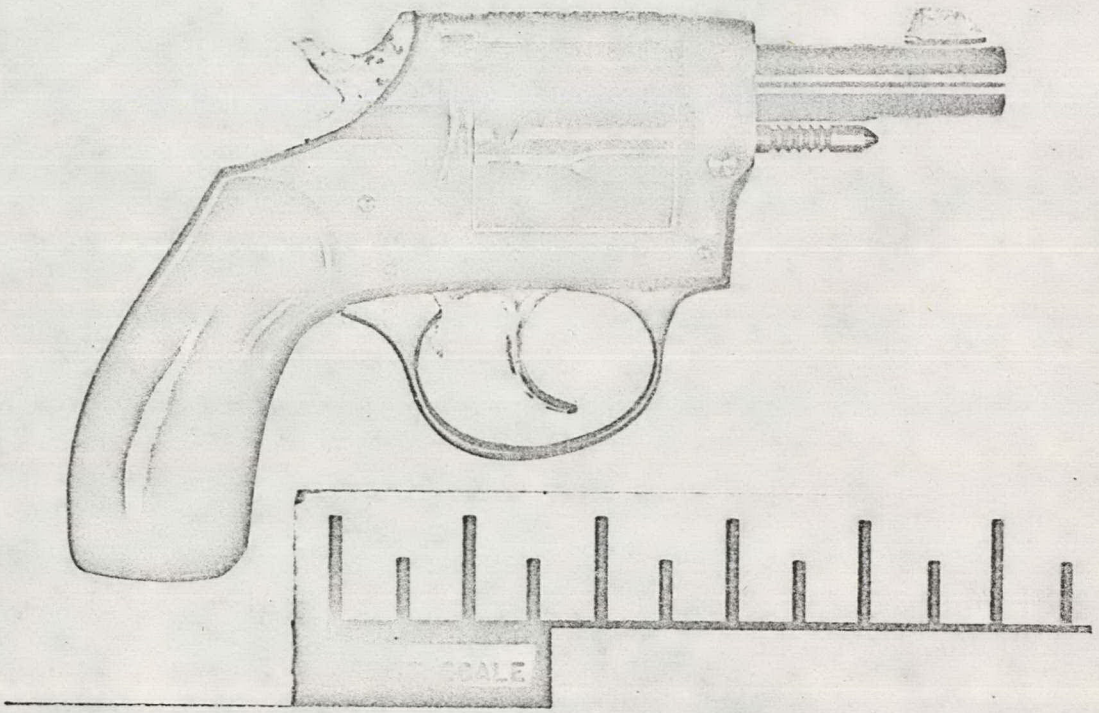
Erhard sold the gun on or about February 15, 1968, to a man who worked with him, Munir Sirhan. Present at this sale were Erhard,

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

William Edmund Price, a friend of his, Munir Sirhan and Sirhan Sirhan. Erhard sold the gun to Munir Sirhan for $25. Munir borrowed approximately six dollars from Sirhan B. Sirhan to make the purchase. Price confirmed that Munir was the person who made the purchase and took possession of the gun. Sirhan Sirhan did hold and examine the gun. Munir Sirhan insisted to investigators that Erhard sold the gun to his brother, Sirhan B. Sirhan, and not to him.

The investigation into the possible involvement of Munir Sirhan in the assassination is discussed in detail in another section of this report.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



The Murder Weapon

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

PURCHASE OF AMMUNITION

The search of Sirhan's vehicle yielded a receipt for the purchase of .22 caliber ammunition. The receipt, #2372, was from the Lock, Stock 'N Barrel Gun Shop, 8972 East Huntington Drive, San Gabriel, California.

The owner of the gun shop, Benjamin James Herrick; his wife, Donna Herrick; and a sales clerk, Larry Kenneth Arnot, were interviewed regarding the sales slip. Benjamin Herrick said the sales slip came from his store and identified the handwriting as that of Arnot. It was confirmed that Arnot had sold the items listed on the receipt.

Larry Arnot initially alleged that he remembered two other men had been with Sirhan the day that the ammunition was sold. This allegation is described in detail in another section of this report. Arnot subsequently admitted that he did not remember seeing Sirhan in the store.

Investigators could only confirm that Sirhan possessed a sales receipt for .22 caliber ammunition from the Lock, Stock 'N Barrel Gun Shop; that a sale of the ammunition had taken place; and that Arnot had made the sale.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

SIRHAN'S PRACTICE AT THE RANGE

Gun Club Member Recalled Sirhan from the Range

On June 5, 1968, Charles Kendall was watching television when he learned of the shooting and saw a picture of Sirhan B. Sirhan on television. He recognized Sirhan as the person he saw firing a small caliber weapon at the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club on June 4, 1968. On June 6, 1968, Kendall returned to the gun club and asked the club manager, Lloyd Hagger, if he was aware of the fact that Sirhan had fired on the range June 4, 1968. Hagger dismissed this idea as a joke. Kendall entered the business office where the rosters are kept and found the name "Sirhan Sirhan, 696 East Howard Street, Pasadena," the fourteenth signature for the date June 4, 1968. Kendall showed the roster to Joseph Tescher, club president, and the executive officer, Maynard Goodell. Both Tescher and Goodell advised Hagger to notify the Los Angeles Police Department. Hagger contacted the Los Angeles Police Department on June 7, 1968, between 3 and 4 p.m.

Sirhan's Activities at the Range

Sirhan arrived at the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club June 4, 1968, between 11 and 11:30 a.m. After signing the non-member roster and obtaining a target, he took a position at the west end of the pistol range. None of the witnesses could place Sirhan on a specific target. The witnesses agreed that Sirhan was firing a .22 caliber revolver, blue steel in color, with a short barrel. Mike Soccoman came to the range at about 2:15 p.m., on June 4, 1968. Sirhan was shooting at a nearby target. Sirhan and

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Soccoman discussed hunting. Soccoman fired Sirhan's gun and described it as "a cheap model, .22 caliber revolver with a short barrel."

Ronald Williams, went to the rifle range, and his wife, Claudia Williams, went to the pistol range. Mrs. Williams fired several rounds but was unable to hit the target. She requested assistance and Sirhan offered to show her the proper method of sighting. He made gestures with his hands, pointing at the rear and front sight. He took her by the arm and showed her the proper stance. After giving her instructions, she fired eighteen rounds from her weapon, and she fired sixteen rounds from his weapon. She described his gun as a .22 caliber revolver, blue steel color, with a short barrel.

The witnesses on the range described Sirhan's method of fire as rapid. He fired double action, and ejected the casings from the cylinder with a small screwdriver. He put the casings in a pile which was described by witnesses as being between 350 to 400 casings. It is unknown if Sirhan left these casings. Witnesses saw six boxes of Super-X long rifle shells at Sirhan's position and two boxes of Mini-Mag hollow point. Several witnesses stated that Sirhan discussed the hollow point as inflicting greater damage than the normal .22 caliber long rifle. Sirhan was described as a good shot by witnesses and an expert by Everett Buckner, the range master. Several hundred rounds were fired at the target and the center was torn out.

Most of the witnesses stayed only an hour and a half to two hours on the range; Sirhan was there from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. The

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

witnesses interviewed stated that Sirhan was alone with the exception of Everett Buckner and James Thornbrugh. Allegations made by Buckner and Thornbrugh indicated Sirhan knew someone on the range. The allegations were found to be untrue and are reported in detail under that section of the report dealing with conspiracy potential.

Approximately forty pounds of shell casings were taken into custody by the F.B.I. from the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club pistol range. These casings were sent to Washington D.C. for comparison by the Scientific Investigation Section. An analysis was requested comparing the casings confiscated by the F.B.I. with the expended casings removed from Sirhan's weapon. The casings were then returned to the Los Angeles Police Department, Scientific Investigation Division, for comparison. These tests were negative.

The range master, Everett Buckner, stated Sirhan arrived at the gun club on June 4, 1968, between 9:30 a.m. and 12 noon Sirhan took a position on the far west end of the pistol range, possibly target #1. After firing between seventy-five and a hundred rounds, Sirhan returned to control tower and told Buckner he wanted some .22 caliber shells that would not misfire. Buckner stated he sold him .22 caliber hollow point; but, was unsure of the brand.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

CORONA POLICE DEPARTMENT RANGE INVESTIGATION

Investigators checked the Corona Police Department range rosters on December 13, 1968. There were nine names recorded on the June 1, 1968, roster, one of which was the name Sirhan Sirhan. The roster listed 12:50 p.m., as his "time started" and 3 p.m., as "time completed" for this entry. The roster also listed two names for June 2, 1968, but Sirhan's was not one of them.

The roster was examined by Lawrence Sloan, handwriting expert for the District Attorney's Office. It was Sloan's opinion that Sirhan Sirhan wrote his name on the roster.

There were five people working at the range on June 1, 1968. William Marks, a Corona police officer assigned as the rangemaster; Harry Starr, the assistant rangemaster, a civilian; and Barnaby Martinez, a trusty assigned to the Corona Police Department by the Riverside County Sheriff's Office. Two Corona police student workers, William S. Evan and Mario Salas were also working at the range. They were constructing a wall on June 1, 1968. They periodically left their work and fired on the range, but neither of the student workers could recall definitely seeing Sirhan at the range.

Marks and Starr were shown pictures of Sirhan. Marks identified Sirhan's picture as the person writing the name "Sirhan Sirhan" on the roster. He described Sirhan as a male Caucasian, 20 to 30, 6' to 6'2", 215 to 225, brown hair. There was a man with him that he described as a male Caucasian, 20 to 30, 5'5" to 5'7", 130 to 145, brown hair, pencil-type mustache and wearing

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

horn-rimmed glasses. The second man spoke with an unknown foreign accent. The man questioned Marks about aliens using the range but did not shoot. Marks stated that Sirhan was assigned target position number 1. He fired a .22 caliber revolver, unknown barrel length, which he carried in a zippered carrying case.

Harry Starr recalled being at the range on June 1, 1968. He picked Sirhan's picture from a group of "look-alike" photos. His description of Sirhan and the man with him were generally the same as Marks'.

According to the rosters from the range, Sirhan only fired once in 1968, yet Marks and Starr were able to remember him. They were, however, unable to describe other people who fired the same day and had used the range on prior occasions. Investigator's felt that Marks and Starr were confusing Sirhan with some other shooter.

Investigators were unable to locate Barnaby Martinez, the prisoner trusty. He is on probation for 270 P.C., Failure to Provide. It was the opinion of a Riverside County Probation Department supervisor that Martinez had left the state to avoid child support payments.

Officers located and interviewed each person listed on the roster with the exception of John Cutting, who lives in the State of Washington. Cutting is the son-in-law of Merle Tool, a range customer. When interviewed, Tool recalled going to the range with his wife, daughter and son-in-law, Cutting. They

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

fired on the rifle range which is separated from the pistol firing line. Tool did not recall seeing Sirhan. He and Cutting signed in at 3 p.m., which is the starting time for "big bore" rifles. Sirhan's sign-out time was 3 p.m. It was learned, however, that shooters do not check out with the rangemaster. The rangemaster approximates a sign-out time when he notices that a shooter is leaving or no longer on the range.

Investigators also interviewed William Smith and Maurice Collins. These two men are in their 60's and used the range almost every Saturday. The next two people listed on the roster after Smith and Collins were Margaret and David Pixley. They used the range once or twice a month. The last two people interviewed were Richard Stewart and his son, Anthony. None of these six people recalled Sirhan on the range. The last of the group completed shooting at 11:45 a.m., according to the roster. As mentioned earlier, Sirhan did not start shooting until 12:50 p.m. The times on the roster indicate that no one was shooting between 11:45 and 12:50 p.m., the time when Sirhan started firing. There was no one firing on the range when Sirhan was using it according to the recorded times on the roster.

Deputy District Attorney David Fitts indicated that William Marks, the rangemaster, would probably be called to testify to Sirhan's signature on the roster.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

RESULTS OF HANDWRITING ANALYSIS

The papers, notes and notebooks found in Sirhan's bedroom on June 5, 1968, were transported to the F.B.I. laboratory for comparison, then to the Los Angeles Police Department laboratory. The documents, with other examples of Sirhan's handwriting, were delivered to Mr. Stoner, Chief Investigator, District Attorney's Office, on July 23, 1968. These examples included Sirhan's signature from the cancelled Argonaut Insurance Company check, his driver's license and an application for a "Hot Walker's" license with the State of California. Stoner gave the documents to L. W. Sloan, Questioned Document Examiner, District Attorney's Office.

Sloan conducted a lengthy intercomparison of the writings and formed the opinion that Sirhan had signed his name on the "sign-in" sheet at the San Gabriel Gun Club. It was Sloan's specific and unqualified opinion that Sirhan was the person responsible for more than 90 percent of the writings in the two spiral notebooks. The remaining 10 percent of the writings related to obscure words and phrases that were written in a manner unlike that found in the identifiable exemplar writing. Evaluation of the notebook writing indicated a writer who apparently "experiments" with his handwriting construction.

Sloan's preliminary report of August 22, 1968 stated:

> I am able to identify much of the writing in the two notebooks and other related papers as being that of Sirhan. The main difficulty of the examination has been in the scarcity of appropriate exemplar material. So far, it has been necessary to make considerable intercomparisons of the questioned writing in order to tie it into the exemplars.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Without question, Sirhan signed his name to the "sign-in" sheet at the San Gabriel Rifle Range, dated June 4, 1968.

I am certain that complete identity of all the writing, which is Sirhan's, will be possible with additional time being spent on the examination.

A continuing attempt is being made to locate and identify additional exemplar writing.

On September 20, 1968, Sloan made a final report which read as follows:

I have completed a lengthy and detailed examination and comparison of the handwriting contained in the two spiral notebooks and other related papers in the Sirhan matter with and against the accumulated exemplar writings of Sirhan Sirhan.

At the time of my preliminary report, August 22, 1968, it was anticipated that additional exemplar writings of Sirhan would be located and identifiable, but none has been found. Thus, the complete examination and comparison has been carried out with the same exemplar materials but with considerable additional time being spent.

My original opinion concerning the signature of Sirhan Sirhan in the "sign-in" sheet, at the San Gabriel Rifle Range, dated June 4, 1968, has been strengthened considerably by the additional time spent in the overall examination. Too, the lengthy intercomparison of writing in the spiral notebooks has been of great value and a much firmer opinion concerning that writing has been reached.

Therefore, at this time I wish to state my opinion concerning all the writings and the examination thereof. It is my specific and unqualified opinion that Sirhan Sirhan is the person responsible for the writing of his name on the "sign-in" sheet at the San Gabriel Rifle Range. It is also my specific and unqualified opinion that he is the person responsible for more than 90 percent of the writings found in the two spiral notebooks.

To explain the 90 percent opinion, the remaining 10 percent of the writing relates to obscure words and phrases that have been written in a manner unlike that found in the identifiable exemplar writing. Observation and evaluation of the notebook writing as a

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

whole indicates a writer who apparently "experiments" with his writing construction from time to time.

Further, it is my specific and unqualified opinion that he in particular, wrote the words on pages 15, 19, 21, 26, 35, 39, 47, in the Pasadena City College notebook and pages 123, 124, 125 and 126 of the larger notebook.

Such would be my testimony in courts.

The Court Ruling on the Search

Judge Herbert V. Walker convened Department 107-A on October 22, 1968. The motion before the court was a suppression of evidence found in Sirhan's bedroom. The prosecution and defense presented their points, authorities and witnesses. Judge Walker ruled the search was not unreasonable, and the notebooks found in Sirhan's bedroom were accepted by the court. Judge Walker commented that the court's receipt of the notebooks was not to be construed as a ruling on their admissibility as acceptable evidence. This could only be determined by the trier of fact.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

WITNESS TO SIRHAN'S INTENTION TO KILL KENNEDY

Alvin Clark, a trash collector for the City of Pasadena, advised investigators that he had known Sirhan during 1967 and 1968. The Sirhan house was on his collection route and he frequently stopped for lunch near the house. At first occasionally and then more often, he and Sirhan would sit and talk by his trash truck. They talked about events of current interest.

Clark recalled that on April 10, 1968, the Wednesday after the assassination of Martin Luther King, he and Sirhan discussed the upcoming primary election. Sirhan asked Clark whom he was going to vote for and Clark told him, "Kennedy." Sirhan replied, "Well, I don't agree. I am planning on shooting the son of a bitch." Clark did not take him seriously and thought it was only an exaggeration.

Clark stated that later in 1968, he and Sirhan had a conversation about hunting and firearms. Sirhan asked him where he might buy or obtain a weapon greater in caliber than his .22 pistol. Clark did not associate this statement with Sirhan's earlier remark about Kennedy because of the lapse of time between the two conversations.

Examples of Writings Found in Sirhan's Bedroom

An envelope from the United States Treasury Department was found in Sirhan's bedroom along with other papers, notes, and notebooks. Written on the envelope was "R.F.K. must be disposed of like his brother was." The F.B.I. booklet titled "Exhibit 18" contains photographs of the pages from a spiral notebook referred to as

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the Pasadena City College Notebook. A handwriting expert attributed the writings to Sirhan. The following are excerpts from that exhibit:

Page 120 "May 18th, 9:45 a.m.-68." (This appears at the top of the page). "My determination to eliminate R.F.K. is becoming more the more of an unshakable obsession." "R.F.K. must be assassinated." Written over and over on the next fourteen lines "RFK and Robert F. Kennedy must be assassinated." Lines 13 and 14 on this page read: "Robert F. Kennedy must be assassinated before 5 June 1968."

Page 126 "2 June 1967 2:30 p.m." (This appears at the top of the page.) "A declaration of war against America." (This is a title written on the top line of the page.) The last three paragraphs read as follows: "The victims of the party in favor of this declaration will be or are now-the president, vice, etc., down the ladder."

"The time will be chosen by the author at the convenience of the accused."

"The method of assault is inmaterial--however the type of weapon used should influence it somehow."

Page 139 "Sirhan Sirhan must begin to work on uphold solving the problem and difficulties of assassinating the 36th President of the glorious United States."

Page 140 "We believe that the glorious United States of America will eventually be felled by a blow of an assassin's bullet."

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Page 152 "Kennedy must fall. Kennedy must fall" and "we believe that Robert F. Kennedy must be sacrificed for the poor exploited people" and "we believe that we can effect such action and produce such results--. The hand that is writing down this writing is going to do the slaying of the above mentioned victim. One wonders what it feels like to do an assassination that might do some illegal work--."

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Kennedy Rally May 24, 1968 Los Angeles Sports Arena

Joseph Sheehan and his wife, Margaret, attended a Kennedy Rally at the Los Angeles Sports Arena, May 24, 1968. The rally ended at approximately 10:30 p.m. The Sheehans were part of a large crowd waiting for the Senator to make his departure from the arena and waited for one-half hour in the parking lot area. Sheehan saw a man in front of him who appeared to be alone. Sheehan, a clinical psychologist, commented to his wife about the man. He described him as "completely out of character with the crowd" in that he "appeared very intense and sinister." The man did not participate in the carnival atmosphere that pervaded the crowd and disappeared from their view prior to Kennedy's appearance. Mrs. Sheehan positively identified Sirhan Sirhan as the man they observed outside the sports arena.

Kennedy Rally June 2nd - Ambassador Hotel

William Burton Blume worked from December 1967, to March 1968, next door to the Organic Pasadena Food Company where Sirhan was employed. Blume and Sirhan knew each other casually in this relationship. On June 2, 1968, between 8:30 and 10:30 p.m., Blume was in the lobby of the Ambassador Hotel and "unquestionably" saw Sirhan pass him. He commented to his friend, David Vogel, "I know that guy." Sirhan was walking in the opposite direction and was three feet away from him.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ACTIVITIES — SENATOR KENNEDY AND SIRHAN

Published Press

RFK

SBS

3-25/3-28- Senator outside So.Cal.

4-13/3-14-Senator campaigning outside of So. Calif.

3-21/3-24- Out of So. Calif.

3-24/3-27- Out of L.A. area.

24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 1 2 3 4 5

MARCH — APRIL — MAY — JUNE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

NSC, E.J. Hodovitch
NATIONAL SECURITY SERVICE DEPARTMENT
FEBRUARY 27, 1968

ACTIVITY 72 HOURS PRIOR TO ASSASSINATION

The following is a chronological hourly account of Sirhan's known activities for the 72 hour period preceding the shooting of Senator Kennedy, commencing with 12:01 a.m., Sunday, June 2, 1968.

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY/LOCATION	SOURCE
Sun. 6/2/68	12:01 a.m.- 8:00 a.m.	Bedroom, 696 E. Howard St., Pasadena	Mary Sirhan
" "	8:00 a.m.- 9:00 a.m.	Drove mother to church, 1757 N. Lake, Pasadena	Mary Sirhan
" "	9:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.	UNKNOWN	----------
" "	11:00 a.m.-	Home, 696 E. Howard St., Pasadena	Mary Sirhan Trans. #50 Line 1 thru 12
" "	11:15 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.	UNKNOWN	----------
" "	5:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.	Home, 696 E. Howard St., Pasadena	Adel Sirhan Trans. #52 Lines 12 thru 26
" "	6:00 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.	UNKNOWN	----------
" "	8:30 p.m.- 9:30 p.m.	Seen at Kennedy Rally Ambassador Hotel, 3400 Wilshire Blvd.	Bert Blum, Susan Redding,

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY/LOCATION	SOURCE
Sun. 6/2/68	9:30 p.m.- 10:30 p.m.	UNKNOWN	----------
" "	10:30 p.m.- 11:00 p.m.	Home, 696 E. Howard St., Pasadena	Mary Sirhan
" " Mon. 6/3/68	11:00 p.m.- 8:00 a.m.	Bedroom, 696 E. Howard St., Pasadena	Mary Sirhan
" "	8:00 a.m.- 8:15 a.m.	Drove mother to work	Mary Sirhan
" "	8:15 a.m.- 10:30 a.m.	UNKNOWN	----------
" "	10:30 a.m.- 10:40 a.m.	Purchased gas at Richfield Gas Station, 2529 E. Foothill Blvd., Pasadena	Sidney McDaniel
" "	10:40 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.	UNKNOWN	----------
" "	12:30 p.m.- 1:00 p.m.	Home, 696 E. Howard St., Pasadena	Mary Sirhan Trans. #50 Page 19 lines 19 thru 26 Page 20 lines 1 thru 15
" "	1:00 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.	UNKNOWN	----------
" "	4:30 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.	Watched Television at home, 696 E. Howard St., Pasadena	Mary Sirhan Trans. #50 Lines 1 thru 3

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY/LOCATION	SOURCE
Mon. 6/3/68	5:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.	At home, eating, 696 E. Howard St., Pasadena	Mary Sirhan Trans. #50 Page 17, Lines 10 thru 26
" "	6:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.	At home reading in his room, 696 E. Howard St., Pasadena	Mary Sirhan Trans. #50 Page 18, Lines 1 thru 22
Mon. 6/3/68 Tues. 6/4/68	9:00 p.m.- 8:00 a.m.	Bedroom, 696 E. Howard St., Pasadena	Mary Sirhan Trans. #50 Page 18, Lines 23 thru 26, Page 19, Lines 1 thru 5
" "	8:00 a.m.-	Drove his car from 696 E. Howard St., to purchase a newspaper	Mary Sirhan Trans. #50 Page 19, Lines 2 thru 12
" "	8:00 a.m.- 9:30 a.m.	UNKNOWN	----------
" "	9:30 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.	Home, 696 E. Howard St., Pasadena	Adel Sirhan
" "	11:00 a.m.-	Home answering phone 696 E. Howard St., Pasadena	Adel Sirhan Trans. #52 Page 23, Lines 21 thru 22

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY/LOCATION	SOURCE
Tues. 6//4//68	11:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.	San Gabriel Valley Gun Club, 4001 Fish Canyon Rd., Monrovia Practiced - fired his gun	E. C. Buckner, Henry Carreon, D. Montellano, Claudia Williams, Ronald Williams, Robert Grijavla, J. Thornbrugh, Charles Kendall, Mike Saccoman, Corliss Edwards, George Mioch
" "	5:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m.	UNKNOWN	----------
" "	6:00 p.m.- 6:40 p.m.	Bob's Restaurant 1601 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena	Gaymoard Mistri,
" "	6:40 p.m.- 7:05 p.m.	Pasadena City College Cafeteria, 1570 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena	Gaymoard Mistri, Marof Badran, Anwar Sayegh, Abdo J. Malki
" "	7:05 p.m.- 7:15 p.m.	Enroute from Pasadena City College to Bob's Restaurant	Gaymoard Mistri,
" "	7:15 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.	Bob's Restaurant 1601 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena	Gaymoard Mistri,

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

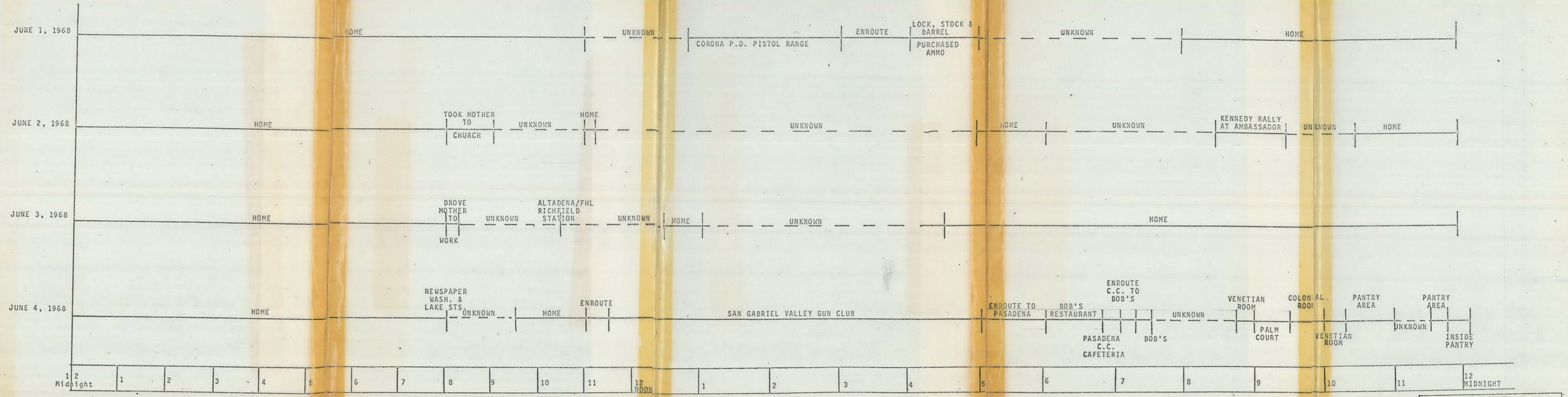
DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY/LOCATION	SOURCE
Tues. 6/4/68	7:30 p.m.- 8:45 p.m.	UNKNOWN	----------
" "	8:45 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.	Standing in the Electricians Booth Adjacent to Venetian Room, Ambassador Hotel	Hans Bidstrup,
" "	9:00 p.m.- 9:30 p.m.	Standing at entrance to Palm Court, Ambassador Hotel	Humphrey Cordero, Enrique Rabago,
" "	9:30 p.m.- 10:00 p.m.	Inside the Colonial Room, Ambassador Hotel Looking at teletype machines	Mary Grohs
" "	10:00 p.m.- 10:15 p.m.	Standing outside rest room adjacent to Venetian Room, Ambassador Hotel	Gonzalo Cetina,
" "	10:15 p.m.- 11:00 p.m.	Standing in pantry area of the kitchen, Ambassador Hotel	Judy Royer
" "	11:00 p.m.- 11:30 p.m.	UNKNOWN	----------
" "	11:30 p.m.- 11:45 p.m.	Walking out of pantry door in the kitchen area	Robert M. Klase,
" "	11:45 p.m.- 12:00 p.m.	Inside pantry area of kitchen asking question whether Senator Kennedy will come by there later	Jesus Perez Trans. #13 Page 3 and Page 5

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY/LOCATION	SOURCE
Wed. 6/5/68	12:05 a.m.- 12:10 a.m.	Standing on tray rack in pantry area of kitchen looking towards the stage of the Embassy Room	Martin Patrusky,
" "	12:10 a.m.- 12:15 a.m.	Standing next to ice machine in the pantry area of kitchen, Ambassador Hotel	Barbara Rubin, Gonzalo Cetina,
" "	12:10 a.m.- 12:15 a.m.	Standing in crouched position next to ice machine in pantry area of kitchen, Ambassador Hotel	Vincent DiPierro, Trans. #4, Page 8 thru 18
" "	12:15 a.m.-	Standing on tray rack pushing towards Kennedy reaching around Carl Uecker, and firing shots	Martin Patrusky,
" "	12:15 a.m.-	Drew gun from his waistband and fired at Senator Kennedy	Lisa Lynn Urso,
" "	12:15 a.m.-	Inside pantry area of kitchen firing gun	Jesus Perez Trans. #13, Page 4 and Page 6
" "	12:15 a.m.- 12:25 a.m.	Inside pantry area being subdued by witnesses	Karl Uecker Frank Burns Roosevelt Grier, Joseph LaHive
" "	12:25 a.m.-	Sirhan in custody of Police escorted through Colonial Room, Ambassador Hotel	Mary Grohs

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

SIRHAN'S ACTIVITIES
JUNE 1-4, 1968



SGT G. J. BURGOYNE
LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT
REVISED JANUARY 22, 1969

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

-622-

STATE OF MIND - INTERVIEWS WITH POLICE AFTER ARREST

The following is an account of Sirhan Sirhan's behavior and statements comencing at the time of apprehension until being transferred to the Sheriffs facility:

During the apprehension of Sirhan, Rafer Johnson asked him, "Why did you do it?" Sirhan replied, "I can explain (or) I'll tell you later," Johnson did not hear Sirhan say, "I did it."

Unruh recalled that while Sirhan was being restrained on the table, Sirhan said, "I can (or) I will explain." Later, in the police car en route to Rampart Station, Unruh recalled Sirhan state, "I did it for my country." Unruh asked Sirhan, "Why him?" to which Sirhan replied, "It's too late."

Officer Placencia advised Sirhan of his rights en route to Rampart Station. Sirhan acknowledged he understood his rights by nodding his head. When asked if he understood his right to remain silent, Sirhan replied, "Yes." He did not request an attorney.

Officer Placencia stated that Unruh said, "Why did you shoot him?" Unruh denied that he made this statement and also denied hearing Sirhan reply, "You think I'm crazy, so you can use it as evidence against me."

At Rampart Station Sirhan complained that the cuffs were too tight; they were loosened.

Two officer attempted to engage Sirhan in trivial and unrelated

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

conversation, but he remained silent. One of the officers, Willoughby, was drinking hot chocolate in the interrogation room. Sirhan asked Willoughby if he could have a drink, and Willoughby replied, "No." Sirhan asked if the drink was hot and when Willoughby replied that it was, Sirhan kicked out with his right foot spilling the hot chocolate on Willoughby and himself. Sirhan later apologized to Willoughby. During an interview with Sgt. Jordan, at another time, Sirhan indicated to Jordan that he was sorry about the incident.

Sgt. Jordan interviewed Sirhan at Rampart Station. Sirhan refused to answer personal questions. He asked a few questions concerning his rights and then stated he would remain silent.

Sirhan asked for a drink of water and then refused it when it was offered, insisting that Sgt. Jordan taste the water first. When asked the significance of his actions, he refused to comment. Sirhan was transported to the Police Administration Building and interviewed by Sgt. Jordan, District Attorney's Investigator Murphy and Deputy District Attorney Howard. He was advised of his constitutional rights. Sirhan indicated he understood his rights and that he would remain silent.

Sirhan was taken to Central Jail and during the booking process objected to the part of the skin search that required his bending over and spreading his buttocks. When the reason for the search was explained, he complied. Sirhan refused to give any information and was processed under the name John Doe. A Jailer (Custodial Officer Martin Dismukes) recalled Sirhan would give

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

no information and was processed under the name of John Doe. The jailer described Sirhan as very composed and more at ease than some visitors.

Sirhan was fingerprinted during the booking process by Officer Kenneth E. Jones. Sirhan made no comment and refused to fill out the handwriting exemplar or answer any questions.

Officer Guadalupe Dela Garza remembered Sirhan being upset about the trouser waist of his jail clothing being too large. Sirhan was quite concerned with his appearance. Garza also recalled the slow, deliberate and thorough manner in which Sirhan showered.

Sirhan was reinterviewed from 3:15 a.m., to 3:45 a.m., by Deputy District Attorney Howard, Sgt. Melendres and Sgt. Jordan. Sirhan remained silent concerning the shooting. He expressed an interest in the Jack Kirschke murder case. He was relaxed, polite, and composed during the interview. He alertly responded to questions regarding the Kirschke case.

Officer Foster, a jailer, reported of his conversations with Sirhan. He indicated Sirhan talked about children, horses, The Boston Strangler and Foster's duty at the jail. Sirhan claimed he "got nothing out of life" and "they won't give it to me."

At 4 a.m. Sirhan was interviewed again by District Attorney Investigator Murphy and Sgt. Jordan. Jordan's opinion of the interview was as follows: "Sirhan was in good spirits and quite stimulated. He acted as if he were playing a game and

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

enjoying it. He appeared anxious to match wits with Murphy and himself (Jordan). He wanted to talk and was happy to talk about anything other than the Kennedy case. He talked about gardening, types of employment, books, literature, family, children, golf, barbers and the Kirschke case. The only statement concerning the case occurred when Jordan told Sirhan his car had been found. Sirhan replied, "How did you know it was a 1958 Chrysler? The key? Beautiful!" Jordan was impressed with Sirhan's composure and relaxation. He appeared less upset, to Jordan, than individuals arrested for a traffic violation. Sirhan's mind seemed keen. It was Jordan's opinion that Sirhan fancied himself somewhat of an intellectual.

While being transported to the Sheriffs facility at the Hall of Justice, Sirhan asked one of the officers accompanying him his name. The officer, Estrella, answered Sirhan, and Sirhan replied, "A beautiful sounding name."

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

EVIDENCE BOOKED DURING THE INVESTIGATION

A total of 155 items of evidence came into police custody during the investigation. Some items were necessary for the presentation of the case, others had evidential value and could be used in court, and some had no evidential value. The determination whether an item would be used in court was to be made in most cases during the trial. The items are listed below by date, location, item number, quantity and description. The names of the persons who came in contact with the items will be included to establish continuity.

June 5, 1968 — Rampart Division

Officers T. R. White and A. Placencia removed from Sirhan's person:

ITEM NO.	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION
1	4	One hundred dollar bills.
2	1	Five dollar bill.
3	4	One dollar bills.
4		$1.66 miscellaneous coins.
5	2	.22 caliber cartridges, brass cases, lead projectiles.
6	1	.22 caliber projectile, copper jacketed.
7	1	Comb, brown.
8	1	Key - vehicle key (This is the key that belonged to Sirhan's vehicle that was found parked on New Hampshire near Wilshire Blvd.)
9	2	Newspaper clippings. (The content of the newspaper clippings is unknown at this time. The clippings, along with the vehicle key and the below listed item, are exhibits in possession of the Grand Jury.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

10	1	Paper, 8" x 12", typed verse and chorus. (The content of the verse and chorus is unknown.)

Items 1-10 were entered into the Grand Jury Proceedings and will probably be used in the trial.

June 5, 1968 — Rampart Station

Rafer Johnson received the murder weapon from Roosevelt Grier and gave it to Sergeants R. L. Calkins and M. G. McGann:

11	1	Gun, revolver, Iver Johnson, Cadet, blue steel 2½" barrel, 8 shot, .22 caliber, serial #H53725.
12	8	Shells, Brass, expended, .22 caliber, "CCI" on base, not marked for identification. (The gun was used by Sirhan to shoot the victims. The shells were in gun.)

Items 11 and 12 are in custody of the Grand Jury.

June 5, 1968 — Good Samaritan Hospital

13	1	Suit, man's, "Georgetown University Shop," black cloth (cut/bloodstain).
14	1 pr.	Shorts, man's, "Embassy," white cloth, size 34 (bloodstained).
15	1	Shirt, man's, "K. Wragge" (RFK on collar).
16	1	Belt, man's, size 32, custom leather, black/brown, reversible.
17	1	Tie, man's, "Rivetz," blue with silver stripes.
18	1 pr.	Socks, man's, blue cloth.

The above items were the clothing worn by Senator Kennedy. Deputy District Attorney David Fitts indicated Items 13 and 15 will probably be used during the trial in establishing the location and distance that the gun was fired. Items 16, 17 and 18 were of no evidential value.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

June 5, 1968 — Good Samaritan Intensive Care Unit

Sergeant D. D. Varney found below items in the intensive care unit after the Senator had been removed. Officer J. A. Roach received the items from Varney.

19	1	Plastic bag (contained Items 20, 21 and 22).
20	1	Bottle (empty), "American Red Cross," 100cc serum albumin, with 36" hose attached.
21	1	Needle (intravenous) contained in plastic holder with white tape.
22	2	Sheets (bed), white with blue stripe (Los Angeles Receiving Hospital) bloodstained.

The above items were of no evidential value.

June 5, 1968 — Central Receiving Hospital

Officer R. D. Barnes was given Item 23 by Nurse Eby at Central Receiving Hospital. He gave the item to Officer J. A. Roach.

23	1	Vial (glass) with cork, containing blood sample of victim Kennedy.

This item was of no evidential value.

June 5, 1968 — Ambassador Hotel

George Clayton, a photographer, gave Officer C. Craig:

24	34	Photographs of the crowd and individuals at the hotel.
25	1	Film container, 35mm film strip, 30 separate pictures on the strip.

These items were of no evidential value.

June 5, 1968 — Good Samaritan Hospital

Dr. Paul Wertlake gave Sgt. D. D. Varney bullet fragments removed from the right mastoid area of victim Kennedy.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

26	1	Vial (glass) with black top containing sponge and bullet fragments.
27	1	Vial (glass) containing bullet fragments.

Lieutenant W. E. Hogue received these fragments from Dr. Paul Wertlake. The fragments were removed from victim Kennedy by Dr. Henry Cuneo who gave them to Dr. Wertlake. Hogue gave the fragments to Varney, who booked them. Deputy District Attorney Fitts indicated both items will probably be used in the trial.

June 5, 1968 — Ambassador Hotel

Hans Karthoff gave Officer T. W. Roberts:

28	1	Paper, white, the floor plan of Ambassador Hotel drawn on one side in red ink and black crayon. Page No. 2, typed information pertaining to election night.

Karthoff received the item from Don Reinke. Reinke was given the item by William F. Crosson. Investigation revealed Crosson was not a threat to the Senator, rather he was concerned about his security and had drawn the map for this purpose. No evidential value.

June 5, 1968 — 696 East Howard Street, Pasadena

Sergeant W. E. Brandt removed from Sirhan's bedroom:

29	2	Notebooks, wire-bound, approximately 8½" x 11", green. (1) Simpson #9804 found near Sirhan's bed by Officer G. D. Evans #6831. (2) Pasadena City College, 80 sheets, Simpson Lee Paper Company, found by Sgt. Brandt on a dressing table. (Both notebooks contained handwritten statements.)
30	1	Notebook, spiral, wire-bound, brown, approximately 3" x 5", containing writings, found in bedroom dressing table drawer by Sgt. Brandt.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

31	1	Envelope, 4" x 9", return address "U.S. Treasury Department" with handwriting on front, "RFK must be disposed of like his brother was," found in bedroom dressing table drawer by Sgt. Brandt.
32	1	Strip photo, three photos of Sirhan Sirhan removed from bedroom wall by Sgt. Brandt and identified by Adel Sirhan.

The above items are in custody of Department 107-A. They are part of a group of items of evidence the defense has attempted to suppress on the grounds of an illegal search. These items, along with Items 36, 37, 38, 42, 43 and 44, were deemed by Judge Walker to be legally found. Judge Walker indicated their evidential value, however, would be a matter for the trier of the case to decide.

The notebooks, Items 29 and 30, and the envelope, Item 31, contain writings attributed to Sirhan by Lawrence Sloan, handwriting expert for the District Attorney's Office. Deputy District Attorney Fitts indicated the items might possibly be used as evidence in the trial. Item 32 had no evidential value.

June 5, 1968 — 696 East Howard Street, Pasadena

Sergeant E. Willis found in Sirhan's garage:

33	12	Sheets of paper, miscellaneous mimeographed and handwritten papers.

These papers are of no evidential value.

34	1	Business card, Los Angeles Times, with the name "Boris Yaro." (Yaro is a photographer for the Los Angeles Times who was present at the assassination. He went to Sirhan's home on June 5, 1968, on an assignment for the paper. He left his card at the home.)
35	2	Newspapers, Christian Science Monitor.
39	1	Bullet, ,22 caliber, damaged, copper plated.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

40	2	Bullet fragments.
41	2	Cartridge cases, .22 caliber, "VCI" engraved on the base of the case.

The above items were of no evidential value.

June 5, 1968 — 696 East Howard Street, Pasadena

Sergeant W. E. Brandt found in Sirhan's bedroom:

36	1	Cardboard, torn, with handwritten directions. Found under a chair cushion. (The directions are to the home of Robert Louis Prestwood, owner of a horse Sirhan exercised. For additional information see Prestwood's interview summary.)
37	1	State of California Cadet Corp Discharge in the name of Sirhan B. Sirhan.

Items 36 and 37 may be used to establish Sirhan's handwriting.

38	1	Cartridge, .22 caliber, brass case, copper-plated bullet, initials "CCI."
42	2	Business cards. (1) Dr. E. Gordon Keihn. (1) Dr. Paul Nilsson. (These two doctors examined Sirhan's eyes.)
43	1	Gun cleaning patches (1 box) Hoppe's containing 29, 22-270, gun patches, white.
44	1	Nitro powder solvent, 2 ounce bottle, #9 Hoppe's.

The above Items 38-44 are in possession of Department 107-A.

See discussion under Item 32 for further information.

June 5, 1968 — Huntington Memorial Hospital

Dr. John Garner gave Lt. M. P. King:

45	2	Bullet fragments. (The fragments were removed by Dr. Garner from victim Elizabeth Evans.)

Deputy District Attorney Fitts indicated the fragments will probably be used in the trial.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

June 5, 1968 — 600 Block South New Hampshire Avenue

Officer C. D. White removed from Sirhan's vehicle:

46	2	Spent slugs.
47	1	Bullet, .22 caliber.
48	1	Wallet, black leather, containing identification cards and driver's license of Sirhan.
49	1	Canadian dollar.
50	1	Key ring, containing six keys and a tag with license number JWS 093.
51	1	Business card from Lock, Stock 'N Barrel. Fine Guns. 8972 East Huntington Drive, San Gabriel.

These items were found in response to a search warrant issued for the search of Sirhan's vehicle. The items are in the possession of the Grand Jury.

June 5, 1968 — Ambassador Hotel

The desk clerk at the hotel gave to Lieutenant Charles Hughes:

52	7	Letter, envelope addressed to Senator Robert F. Kennedy. (The letter was from William F. Crosson. See Item 28. Crosson was an individual interested in Kennedy's campaign and safety.

This item was of no evidential value.

June 6, 1968 — Good Samaritan Hospital

Dr. Thomas Noguchi gave Sergeant W. Jordan below item. Jordan gave the item to Officer L. M. Orozco:

53	1	Slug, .22 caliber long, Coroner Case No. 68-5731. (The slug was removed from the 6th cervical vertebra, right side of Senator Kennedy during autopsy.

Deputy District Attorney Fitts indicated this item will be used during the trial.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

June 5, 1968 — 600 Block South New Hampshire Avenue

Officer W. A. Krempels removed from Sirhan's vehicle at the time of impound:

54	1	Citation No. 39 43559, issued by Officer J. Holmes #3971, P.I.C., dated June 5, 1968, 8:30 a.m., to vehicle make, De Soto, two door, License JWS 093, California '68. Vehicle parked east side of New Hampshire, 100 feet south of Wilshire. Citation issued for Violation Section 88.138, L.A.M.C. (Meter No. CW436).

This item may be used in the trial.

June 6, 1968 — 1050 Montecito Drive, Los Angeles

Officer L. Del Rosario received from George William West (Andy):

55	1	Recording tape, containing original sound track of events surrounding Kennedy shooting. Recorded by Mr. West.

Deputy District Attorney Fitts was uncertain if this recording would be used during the trial.

June 6, 1968 — 4867 West Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles

Dr. William Neal removed a slug from victim William Weisel. Nurse Helen Lyum received the bullet from Dr. Neal and gave it to Nurse Gail Adams. Adams gave it to Denyce Pine. Pine placed it in a locked cabinet. Nurse Donna J. Brown removed the slug from the cabinet and gave it to Officer L. Orozco.

56	1	Slug, .22 caliber long, (marked "LMO" on base) from victim Weisel.

Dr. Casper Fuchs removed the bullet fragments from victim Schrade. Dr. Fuchs gave the fragments to Nurse Stella Harrigan. Harrigan gave the fragments to Gail Adams. Adams gave them to Denyce Pine who placed them in a locked cabinet. Nurse Donna Brown also

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

removed these fragments from the cabinet and gave them to Officer Orozco.

57	2	Bullet fragments from victim Schrade.

Deputy District Attorney Fitts indicated that Items 56 and 57 will be used in the trial.

June 6, 1968 — 1917 Corning Avenue, Los Angeles

Edith Goldstein found below items in an alley at the rear of 1829 Crescent Heights Boulevard, Los Angeles. She took them to her home, 1917 Corning, and gave them to Officer J. W. Reeves:

58	1	Shoes, "Quali Craft," black, size 9B.
59	1	Purse, ladies, 10" x 12", black with red interior.
60	1	Hair spray, "Lanolin Plus," 9 ounce can.
61	5	Cosmetics, miscellaneous items from purse (liquid foundation, two lipstick cases, one rouge case, also Woolworth sales slip).
62	10	Brown paper bag containing: Spray Mist, four plastic headbands, one fluid make up, white rim sunglasses, white earrings, one card Bob pins, blue hairnet cap, one lipstick.
63	1	Bra, "Lovable", white, size 34-B.
64	1	Panties, "Greenco Maid," pink, size 7, large.
65	1	Dress, ladies, size 9, gray with white dots.
66	1	Panty girdle, "Lovable," white, size medium.
67	1	Slip, "Baronet," black, size 34.
68	1	Nylon stockings, "Ironwear," brown, unknown size.

Above items were of no evidential value according to Deputy District Attorney Fitts.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

June 7, 1968 — Rampart Station

Martin Steadman, WPS-TV, gave Sergeants L. J. Patterson and C. J. Hughes the film and photographs. The items were sent to Steadman from Chris Borgen (true name Sid Shepherd-former New York Police Department detective) via TWA Flight No. 24. Borgen heard Sandy Serrano on television describing the girl in the polka dot dress. The film and photos were of demonstrators he thought fit the description given by Serrano.

69	1	Film, 16mm
70	2	Photographs, (1) 8" x 10" of female at demonstration and (1) 3" x 4" female "Shirin Khan."

These items had no evidential value.

June 6, 1968 — 696 East Howard Street, Pasadena (Rear)

Officer T. R. Young, Pasadena Police Department, found and booked the below items. Lieutenant Wright, Pasadena Police Department, removed the items from the Pasadena Police Property Section and gave them to Officer D. L. Klein:

71	1	Plastic booking envelope containing (1-A) envelope from Argonaut Insurance Company with writing on back, "RFK must be disposed of D D D disposed of disposed disposed of properly Robert Fitzgerald Kennedy must soon die die die die die die die die die die." (1-B) Torn label, "Johnson Cadet S-A .22 caliber 2½" bbl 8 shots Ser. #H53725," (1-C) Two pieces of small notebook paper with Arabic lettering and name of Sirhan Sirhan. (Item 1-A was written by Sirhan. This writing is similar in content to Item 31. Item 1-B bears the serial number of the gun used by Sirhan to shoot Senator Kennedy.)

Deputy District Attorney Fitts indicated Item 71 (1-A, 1-B and 1-C) may be used during the trial.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

June 5, 1968 — Central Jail

Sergeant William Jordan obtained the clothing from Sirhan:

72	1	Man's shirt, blue, long sleeve, size 14½, Towncraft Reg. PennPrest.
73	1	Man's velour blue pullover, long sleeve (small), Don Loper Knickerbocker, Hollywood.
74	1	Man's blue denim pants (Ranchcraft).
75	1	Man's white T-shirt (Towncraft), size 34.
76	1 pr.	Stockings, grey (ribbed).
77	1 pr.	Shoes, loafer type, grey suede (Pilgrim by Plymouth), size 7½W. (Above clothing worn by Sirhan at the time of the assassination.)

Items 72, 73, 74 and 77 may be used in the trial.

June 8, 1968 — San Gabriel Valley Gun Club

Rosters signed by shooters were given to Officer R. Singhause by Lloyd Hager:

78	1	Paper, lined, yellow, 8" x 14", dated 6-4-68.
79	1	Paper, lined, yellow, 8" x 14", dated 6-1-68, 6-2-68, 6-4-68. (Item 78 bears the signature Sirhan Sirhan, and according to Lawrence Sloan, handwriting expert, District Attorney's Office, was written by Sirhan.

Item 78 will possibly be used in the trial.

June 9, 1968 — 11101 Farina Street, Norwalk

Dorothy Manning gave Officer R. Jacques:

80	1	Sweater, men's cardigan, size medium.
81	1	Slacks, men's, black. (The clothing belongs to Edwin Ness. Manning and Ness are discussed in the Golden Garter investigation.)

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Items 80 and 81 had no evidential value.

June 5, 1968 — 600 Block South New Hampshire Avenue

Officer C. D. White removed from Sirhan's vehicle:

82	5	Sheets of paper, 8½ x 10", with printing and writing. (Sirhan's prints were on two of the sheets.)

District Attorney Fitts indicated the papers with the prints may be used in the trial.

June 5, 1968 — 600 Block South New Hampshire Avenue

Lieutenant A. S. Hegge removed from Sirhan's vehicle:

83	1	Book, small pocket, in a foreign language.
84	1	Book, "The Divine Art of Healing" by Manley Palmer Hall.
85	1	Paper bag, labeled "Jack in Box."
86	1	Sales receipt #2372, Lock, Stock 'N Barrel, dated 6-1-68.
87	1	Sales receipt, Allied Auto Supply.
88	1	Ammo box, empty, labeled Mini-mag .22 long rifle H.P.
89	1	Receipt #59600, Auto Park.
90	5	Matchbooks, labeled "Shakey Pizza Parlor, 2180 East Foothill Blvd., Pasadena, Cal. Phone 793-1011."
91	1	Bag, brown paper, empty.
92	1	Receipt, Cashier, dated February 29.
93	1	Receipt, Cashier, dated May 2, stamped "Core deposit $1.00."
94	1	Coupon, Powerine Cash Value.
95	1	Ticket, #37583, St. Elizabeth Western Fiesta May 20 and 21, Grand Prize - 1967 Pontiac Firebird, Donation 25 cents.

2025-RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

96	2	Half tickets, #114147 & 8, labeled - Bruce's Signal Service, 1595 N. Lake.
97	1	Memo paper from Eppard's Brake Supply with writing (plugs, XJ 184, gap 35").
98	1	Receipt, #F 342060, Richfield Service, dated 5-20-68 issued at G. Ayer 248, Baldwin Park, Credit Card # [redacted] vehicle license number JWS 093, charges for outside bearing $3.60 plus tax 17 cents, a total of $3.77.
99	150	Blue Chip stamps, 50 bearing #CGT 181, 50 bearing #CGT 173, 50 bearing #CGU 953.
100	3	Photographs, two of men on horseback, one of sheep. (One of the men is Sirhan. The man in the other photograph has not yet been identified.)
101	6	Newspapers (2), Los Angeles Times dated June 4 and 5, 1968, (2) Christian Science Monitor dated June 1 and 3, 1968, (2) Independent Star News, Pasadena, dated June 2 and 4, 1968.

Items 86 and 88 will possibly be used during the trial. It is doubtful that the other items will be used.

June 19, 1968 — Rampart Detectives

H. L. Burba, a Los Angeles fireman, took several photographs and gave them to Captain J. Perry, Los Angeles Fire Department. Perry gave the photographs to Sgt. J. R. Mac Arthur, Rampart Detectives:

102	5	Negatives, black and white.
103	12	8" x 10" photographs. (The prints depict the above negatives. The photos were of the apprehension of Sirhan.

Some of the photos may be used in the trial.

June 20, 1968 — 1140 Tigertail Road, Los Angeles

Peter Cohen gave Officer C. D. Thompson:

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

104	1	Bullet, unexpended, R-P .25 auto. The inscription "R-P .25 auto" is stamped on the base. (Cohen was at the Ambassador Hotel the night of the shooting. He returned home and while hanging up his trousers, the bullet fell from them. It is unknown where the bullet came from.)

This item had no evidential value.

June 5, 1968 — 5925 San Vicente Boulevard, Los Angeles

Dr. Lewis Cozen removed the bullet from victim Irwin Stroll's leg. Dr. Cozen gave the bullet to Dr. Morris L. Miller. Dr. Miller turned the bullet over to Officers J. D. Dill and E. K. Kamidoi.

105	1	Bullet, (possible) .22 caliber expended. (The bullet was not marked for identification due to its odd shape but was traced in Officer Kamidoi's notebook.)

Deputy District Attorney Fitts indicated it would probably be used in trial.

June 5, 1968 — West Valley Station

Walter Jayline gave Officer W. J. Cleary:

106	4	Bullets, .22 caliber Super-X shorts. (Jayline found the items on 5-20-68, at approximately 8:30 p.m., behind the men's gym at Valley Junior College. Senator Kennedy was giving a speech at the college at that time. On June 5, Jayline brought the items to West Valley Station and gave them to Officer Cleary.)

The bullets were of no evidential value.

June 6, 1968 — 2527 3rd Street, Santa Monica

Roderick MacKay gave Sergeant W. Zanone:

107	1	Peace Exchange Calendar for May 1967 with handwriting in the margin "Jo Ann - 696½ E. Howard, Pasadena."
108	1	Area list of Draft Counselors with handwritten address, "696 East Howard Street."

2025-RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

109	1	Area list of Draft Counselors with handwriting "696 East Howard, Pas." in margin under W.L.A. Section.
110	1	Card, 5" x 8", with handwriting "D.C. 696 E. Howard, Pas., Joe Handy.
111	1	Card, 5" x 8", with typewritten figures as follows: "688------696.05 ????? Draft Coun. Debois Meeting - check address, names." Handwriting, "Jo Ann - refered to Joeseph Handy 696½."
112	1	Reorder blank for personal checks with handwriting on back, "688-696 E. Howard St. Joe Handy" (MacKay gave Officer Zanone the above items because of the Howard Street address which is Sirhan's.)

No known evidential value to above items.

June 5, 1968 — 16237 Ventura Boulevard, Los Angeles

Dr. Max Finkel removed a bullet from victim Ira Goldstein. Dr. Finkel gave the bullet to Nurse Helen Powers. Powers gave it to Nurse Geraldine Halloran. Halloran released the bullet to Officer J. R. Feddema.

113	1	Slug, .22 caliber
114	1	Medical Treatment Slip for victim Goldstein.
115	1	Receipt for property received (Items 113 and 114).

Item 113 will probably be used in the trial.

June 5, 1968 — Parker Center, Room 803

Sergeant M. Nielsen received from Lieutenant J. Kauzor, Rampart Detectives:

116	1	Tape recording, 3" reel. (Recording is of the original call made to Communications Division regarding the shooting of Senator Kennedy.)

Item 116 will probably not be used in the trial.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

June 5, 1968 — 3400 Wilshire Boulevard

Officer D. Wolfer removed the below items from the pantry area adjacent to the Embassy Room, Ambassador Hotel. Wolfer gave the items to Officer T. J. Miller:

117	2	Pieces of wood, from door frame at crime scene. Both contain numerous holes.
118	2	Pieces of ceiling insulation taken from pantry ceiling near the area where Senator Kennedy was shot.

These items may be used in the trial.

June 5, 1968 — 3400 Wilshire Boulevard

Officer D. Wolfer found below items on the floor in the pantry area. Wolfer gave the items to Officer T. J. Miller.

119	1	Bell, small metal.
120	1	Set of multi-colored beads.

The above items were of no evidential value.

July 3, 1968 — 164 Poinsetta, Monrovia

Michael Sacconan gave Officer C. B. Thompson:

121	502	Shell casings, miscellaneous .22 caliber.

These casings had no evidential value.

June 10, 1968 — Conejo Community Park

Charles E. Crane gave Sgt. J. G. Cochran:

122	1	Book, titled "Assassination," orange cover in plastic bag.
123	1	Campaign poster 6" x 8" photograph of Robert F. Kennedy. Charles Crane found the items in a trash can between May 20 to 24, 1968.

The above items were of no evidential value.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

June 24, 1968 — 5515 Melrose (KHJ-TV)

Art Kevin gave Sergeant J. G. Cochran:

124	1	Magnetic tape, 4" reel. (The tape is a telephonic interview by Art Kevin with Harold Weisberg. Weisberg was the subject of a separate investigation in this report.)

The above item had no evidential value.

July 5, 1968 — 2109 Grenadier, San Pedro

Lloyd Herin gave Officer D. J. Lees:

125	1	Notebook, 9" x 7", three-ring looseleaf notebook containing miscellaneous papers. (Officer Lees checked the notebook and found it had no connection with this case.)

The notebook had no evidential value.

July 16, 1968 — Corona Community Hospital

Lieutenant E. Hernandez obtained the X-rays from Dr. Deeb. Hernandez gave the items to Officer T. J. Miller.

126	12	X-rays of Sirhan's skull, spine, left shoulder and left hand.

Deputy District Attorney Fitts indicated the X-rays may be of possible value in rebuttal to defense testimony.

July 23, 1968 — Parker Center, Room 803

127	2	Copy of driver's license of Sirhan B. Sirhan and copy of reverse side, obtained from John Howard, District Attorney's Office.
128	1	Copy of note requesting Attorney Parsons signed by Sirhan, obtained from John Howard, District Attorney's Office. (Sgt. Dominguez received the items from Howard.)

Deputy District Attorney Fitts stated that these items might be used in court. See item 138 for further description of Items 127-138.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The next item was obtained from an F.B.I. report by Sergeant G. Dominguez:

129	1	Copy of canceled cashier's check, Crocker Citizen's Bank, in the name of Sirhan B. Sirhan.

July 23, 1968 — 1380 North Lake, Pasadena

Jack Weidner gave Sergeant G. Dominguez:

130	1	Copy of time card from Organic Foods, Pasadena, Sirhan B. Sirhan.
131	2	Copies of inventory sheets from Organic Food Store in Pasadena.

Officers Harris and Shaw obtained from H. Benson, teacher, Pasadena City College:

132	1	Copy of a paper with the name and address of Sirhan. (Shaw gave the item to Sgt. G. Dominguez.)

Items 133 and 134 were obtained from Deputy District Attorney John Howard by Sergeant Dominguez:

133	2	Copies of Department of Motor Vehicles Certificate of Nonoperation and Seller, signed by Sirhan.
134	1	Copy of Department of Motor Vehicles Certificate of Nonoperation, signed by Sharif Sirhan.

July 23, 1968 — 6753 Hollywood Boulevard

Dr. Tashma gave item to his receptionist, Miss Moore. Moore gave the item to Sergeant G. Dominguez:

135	1	Copy of questionnaire.

July 23, 1968 — Corona Community Hospital

Stanley Grube, hospital administrator, gave Sergeant G. Dominguez:

136	1	Copy of consent for treatment of Sirhan.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

July 23, 1968 — 205 South Broadway

Len Foote gave Sergeant G. Dominguez:

137	4	Copy of application for "Hot Walker," (California Horse Racing Board).

July 23, 1968 — Pasadena City Schools Building

138	1	Copy of Student Placement Service Form. (The form was obtained from Jeanne Herrick, Pasadena City Schools.)

The above items, 127 through and including 138, are in the possession of Lawrence Sloan, handwriting expert, District Attorney's Office.

Deputy District Attorney Fitts has indicated that Items 127, 128, 129, 137 and 138 may possibly be used during the trial. Items 130-136 will probably not be used in trial.

August 1, 1968 — 2651 South Seaman, El Monte

The B. T. Crump Company loaned the Los Angeles Police Department:

139	2	Helmets, fiberglass, white in color, sizes 7 1/2 and 7 5/8. Officers R. C. Harris and J. Shaw received the items. (These are a type of helmet similar to that worn by Sirhan at the time of his fall from the horse.)

These items will probably not be used in the trial.

August 8, 1968 — 1280 East Washington, Pasadena

Charles Mitchell gave Officers R. C. Harris and J. Shaw Items 140 and 141. Mitchell, pastor of the church at 1280 East Washington, claimed they were Bible Lesson study material given to Sirhan by Henry Peters at Sirhan's home.

140	1	Pamphlet, "My Bible Says."
141	1	Pamphlet, "The Bible Speaks."

2025-RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

August 8, 1968 — 580 Penn Street, Pasadena

Mrs. D. Heacock gave Officers R. C. Harris and J. Shaw:

142	1	Pamphlet, "The Bible Says," containing study material, Lessons #11 through #24, with the name Sol Sirhan, 696 East Howard Street, Phone 798-2136. The name D. Heacock appears on the upper right corner.

Items 140 through 142 were of no evidential value.

August 14, 1968 — 650 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles

Officer P. Werth received from Frank Burns, Jr.:

143	1	Reel of tape, 1800 feet in white cardboard box. (This tape, S.U.S. #29334, is a statement by Jerry Owens of his involvement with Sirhan. The tape was mailed to Frank Burns, Jr.)

This item will probably not be used in the trial.

June 18, 1968 — 4077 Havenhurst Drive, Los Angeles

Officer M. Shiells received from victim Ira Goldstein:

144	1	Trousers, men's grey. (These were the trousers Goldstein was wearing at the time he was shot.)

Deputy District Attorney Fitts indicated the item may possibly be used during the trial.

June 7, 1968 — Rampart Station

145	1	Dress, white with black dots. (This item was used to show witnesses Serrano and Di Pierro polka dot dresses, in an attempt to obtain a better description of the clothing described by them.)

The item had no evidential value.

August 22, 1968 — Parker Center

Agent Roger LaJeunesse gave Officer T. J. Miller:

146	1	Original membership application for Rosicrucians Order made by Sirhan B. Sirhan.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

This item is in the custody of the District Attorney's Office and will possibly be used in the trial.

July 15, 1968 — 1340 West 6th Street, Los Angeles

Sergeant M. C. McGann received Items 147 through and including 151 from the local office of the F.B.I. These items represent five boxes containing 37,815 .22 caliber casings that were recovered from the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club on June 10, 1968. The items were turned over to the Los Angeles Police Department for examination. The casings were examined by Scientific Investigation Division. No casing was found that indicated it was fired from the gun used by Sirhan in the assassination. They were of no evidential value.

October 31, 1968 — Parker Center

Agent R. J. LaJeunesse gave Officer T. J. Miller:

152	- 1	Bag, brown paper, containing a black and white polka dot dress and a five-page undersigned letter. LaJeunesse received Item 152 from Special Agent in Charge, U.S. Secret Service (Robert Grube, Salt Lake City, Utah, office). (He explained it undoubtedly originated with Viola Dehon, 237 South 7th, East Salt Lake City, Utah. Both are mental patients and have sent numerous items of mail to the Salt Lake City Office of the F.B.I. and Secret Service.)

The above item had no evidential value.

December 12, 1968 — Granja Vista Del Rio Ranch, Norco, Calif.

Burt Altfillisch gave Sergeant P. L. Sartuche:

153	1	Check, canceled, paid to the order of Kenneth N. Blay.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

December 5, 1968 Parker Center

C.I.I. investigator, John Diemel, gave Sergeant F. Patchett:

154	1	Check, canceled, paid to the order of Sirhan Sirhan.

December 13, 1968 Corona Police Shooting Range

Rangemaster William Marks gave Sergeant P. L. Sartuche:

155	1	Work sheet, Corona Police Pistol Range dated "June." Item contained signature of Sirhan Sirhan.

Items 153 and 154 will not be used in the trial. A description of the investigation of Sirhan's activities at the Corona Police Range is described in a separate section of this report.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

ANALYSIS OF THE MURDER WEAPON AND BULLETS

The weapon used to assassinate Senator Kennedy was an Iver Johnson, Cadet Model, .22 caliber, blue steel, eight-shot revolver with dark brown plastic grips and a two-and-one-half inch barrel, serial number H53725. Eight expended shell casings were in the cylinder at the time it was taken from Sirhan. The weapon was checked for latent prints at Scientific Investigation Division by Sgt. Moser. No identifiable prints were found on the weapon.

Maintaining Continuity for Investigation

During the scuffle with Sirhan Sirhan immediately after the shooting, Sirhan momentarily lost control of the gun; however, he regained control. Roosevelt Grier then took the gun from him. Grier in turn gave the gun to Rafer Johnson at the Ambassador Hotel. Johnson took the gun to Rampart Station where he gave it to Sgt. R. L. Calkins, Homicide Division. Calkins booked the gun as evidence at Central Property Division.

Officer D. A. Wolfer, Scientific Investigation Division, removed the gun from Property Division and made a comparison between the gun and a .22 caliber spent bullet removed from the 6th cervical vertebra of Senator Robert Kennedy. The comparison showed the bullet was fired from the same gun, serial number H53725. The gun was entered into evidence at the Grand Jury proceedings on June 7, 1968.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Identification of the Bullets

Seven of the eight bullets fired at the hotel were recovered. Three of the bullets were identified as having come from the murder weapon:

1. The bullet removed from Senator Kennedy's 6th cervical vertebra.
2. The bullet removed from victim Ira Goldstein.
3. The bullet removed from victim William Weisel.

All of the other evidence bullets were unsuitable for comparison purposes. The following could be determined from the remaining four damaged bullets:

Bullet fragments removed from Kennedy's head were fired from a weapon with the same rifling as the murder weapon and were mini-mag brand ammunition.

Bullet fragments removed from victim Irwin Stroll had the same rifling specifications as the murder weapon and were mini-mag brand ammunition.

Bullet fragments from victim Elizabeth Evans were mini-mag brand ammunition.

Bullet fragments removed from victim Paul Schrade were mini-mag brand ammunition.

Trajectory of Bullets

A trajectory study was made of the physical evidence by Officer D. A. Wolfer, Scientific Investigation Division. The exact order that each shot was fired could not be precisely

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

determined. The study indicated that the trajectory of the eight shots were as follows:

1. A bullet entered Senator Kennedy's head behind the right ear and was later recovered from the victim's head and booked as evidence.

2. A bullet passed through the right shoulder pad of Senator Kennedy's suit coat, never entering his body; it then traveled upward striking victim Schrade in the center of his forehead. The bullet was recovered from Schrade's head and booked as evidence.

3. A bullet entered Kennedy's right rear shoulder approximately seven inches below the top of the shoulder. This bullet was recovered by the coroner from the 6th cervical vertebra and booked as evidence.

4. A bullet entered Kennedy's right rear back approximately one inch to the right of bullet number three. This bullet traveled upward and forward and exited the right front chest. The bullet passed through the ceiling tile, striking the second plastered ceiling and was lost in the ceiling interspace.

5. A bullet struck victim Goldstein in the left rear buttock. This bullet was recovered from the victim and booked as evidence.

6. A bullet passed through victim Goldstein's left pant leg (never entering his body), struck the cement floor and

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

entered victim Stroll's leg. The bullet was later recovered and booked as evidence.

7. A bullet struck victim Weisel in the left abdomen and was recovered and booked as evidence.

8. A bullet struck the plaster ceiling, ricocheted downward and then struck victim Evans in the forehead. This bullet was recovered from the victim's head and booked as evidence.

Tattoo Patterns

A Walker "H-Acid" Test was conducted on Senator Kennedy's suit coat in the area of the entrance wounds. This test indicated that the muzzle of the weapon was held at a distance of one to six inches from the Senator's coat at the time he was shot. The powder pattern on Senator Kennedy's ear indicated the weapon muzzle was approximately one inch from the ear at the time it was discharged.

Casing Examination and Comparison

The empty casings collected from the San Gabriel Valley Gun Gun Club by F.B.I. agents were compared with the casings removed from Sirhan's weapon. Wolfer and two assistants examined 37,815 shells. They were unable to positively identify any of these casings as being fired by the murder weapon.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

OTHER INVESTIGATIONS AND INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

PHOTOGRAPHS

On June 12, 1968, when Special Unit Senator was formed, it was immediately relized that photographs would be of special importance to the investigation of the assassination. Photographs would aid in identifying witnesses, substantiating statements, locating witnesses in the Ambassador Hotel at the time of the shooting and assisting in the possible identification of additional suspects. Photographs would also assist investigators in reconstructing the crime scene and displaying the crowd's behavior before and after the shooting.

Reception of Photographs

The unit received in excess of 2,700 photographs. Scientific Investigation Division photographed the crime scene, interior and exterior of the hotel, various witnesses and numerous pieces of evidence. Photographs were also received from the Los Angeles Fire Department and the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office. Investigators contacted newspapers, television stations wire services and private citizens in an effort to locate additional photographs. In addition the unit received a total of six rolls of film from U.C.L.A., N.B.C. and C.B.S.

Investigators also asked each witness if he had a camera with him at the hotel the night of the shooting, or if he had knowledge of photographs taken by other persons present at the hotel. When photographs were located, investigators requested a copy for S.U.S.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Filing System

One officer coordinated the evaluation and processing of all photographs received by the Department. The photographs were grouped into sections according to location or subject matter; for example, SIRHAN SIRHAN and FAMILY, EVIDENCE, MEDICAL, KENNEDY and other catagories. Each photograph was evaluated by the Case Preparation Team and Unit supervisors for investigative value.

Each photograph retained by the Unit was reproduced by the photographic laboratory and bore a special code number as a security precaution to prevent unauthorized reproduction and possession. All other photographs were either returned to the original owner or destroyed by Unit personnel.

Use of Photographs

The precise time of the shooting was obtained by utilizing video tapes and other television film. Investigators utilizing photographs were able to determine the exact location of Senator Kennedy and Paul Schrade as they were lying on the kitchen floor immediately after the shooting. Photographs also were extremely valuable in identifying all the witnesses in the area of the crime scene, and to determine the exact location of other persons before and after the shooting.

On several occasions, photographs and films reportedly depicting Sirhan in the crowd before the shooting were discounted by viewing other pictures from different angles

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

and comparing them with the one in question. Every photograph was scrutinized under magnification in an attempt to locate Sirhan and persons in question in the crowd prior to the shooting.

During the initial portion of the investigation, a female wearing a "polka dot" dress was described as a co-conspirator by several persons. Photographs aided in locating the women at the Ambassador Hotel that evening who were wearing this type of dress. Valerie Schulte, for example was photographed in the kitchen area moments after the shooting wearing a green "polka dot dress." On another occasion some television viewers informed this Department that they had seen "the girl in a polka dot dress" on camera shortly after the shooting. A careful study of the film proved this female to be Sharon Rothschild, who was identified through the use of still photographs.

Photographs of Scientific Division personnel utilizing "trajectory rods" in the crime scene were able to precisely determine the trajectory of all bullets fired by Sirhan.

Physical custody of Sirhan by the Department was documented on film depicting the time between the handcuffing procedure until he was driven away from the hotel. Photographs aided witnesses in refreshing their memories as to their location in the hotel complex at the time of the shooting and most of the evidence taken in this case was photographed for documentation and for reviewing by the investigators.

Other aspects of the use of photographs included elimination

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

of alleged co-conspirators, presentation of exhibits to new witnesses, the court and the Grand Jury, and locating additional witnesses.

Selected sections of commercial movie films taken at the Ambassador the night of June 4, 1968, and the morning of June 5, 1968, were combined into a twenty-minute film for viewing by Unit personnel, District Attorney's personnel and selected witnesses. This film permitted personnel to reorient themselves, illustrated the confusion present that night both before and after the shooting, and clarified verbal accounts of what occurred.

Two preoperative and four postoperative photographs of Senator Kennedy were taken by Officer W. Wighton at Good Samaritan Hospital. These photographs depicted Senator Kennedy being treated for the bullet wound to his head and also showed the two bullet wounds under his right arm.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

RECORD AND BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS

The investigation of allegations and interviews with witnesses developed in excess of 4,700 names of persons involved in the Department's examination of the Kennedy assassination. A record and background check was initiated on each witness including information available from the Department's Records and Identification Division and Intelligence Division, The California Bureau of Identification and Investigation (CII) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (F.B.I.).

A specific detail was created within Special Unit Senator for the purpose of completing the processing and maintenance of the files necessitated by the return of information from these sources. Investigators assigned to the task of interviewing witnesses were given a format by which they were to obtain information from the interviewee. More specific information on witnesses contacted in the early weeks after the formation of S.U.S. was gathered and included in the record investigation.

The results of the record and background checks were utilized to evaluate the credibility of various witnesses whose statements were questionable. In addition, it was intended that everyone would be checked to determine if any of the witnesses had any involvement with militant or subversive groups. This was done to find those individuals, if there were any, who might have been previously involved in crimes of violence, sabotage or assassination conspiracies. The results, which revealed nothing of major importance to the investigation, and

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

a summary of the record and background checks are included in the Appendix of this report.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

After interviews with volunteer witnesses and those who had been identified immediately after the shooting, interviews with people at the hotel the night of the assassination were begun. They were generally unproductive and investigators could not insure that all those present had been identified. Those interviewed either saw nothing relevant to the case or had left prior to the shooting. No rosters were maintained on those attending the victory party. Investigators were faced with the potentially lengthy search for an estimated 5,000 persons. It was necessary therefore, that a method be devised to determine which witnesses observed nothing and a means to identify potentially valuable witnesses.

Kennedy Campaign Headquarters Assisted Investigation

The major problem of whom to contact was resolved with the assistance of personnel at the Kennedy Campaign Headquarters. During the month of July, 1968, they began the compilation of a roster listing all the volunteers who worked on the California campaign. A list of between five and six thousand names, all from the Southern California area, were immediately available and it was estimated that the list would eventually contain twenty thousand names and cover the entire state of California.

Upon receipt of this information, investigators determined that assignment of a force of investigators large enough to personally contact all of these persons would be financially impractical. The potential value of statements from these persons did not

2025-RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

justify such an expenditure of manpower. A meeting was held between the campaign headquarters staff and investigators and it was agreed that a letter could be drafted and sent to the volunteers in conjunction with a letter of thanks being prepared by Jesse M. Unruh, chairman of the California Democratic delegation.

While this method was less desirable than direct interviews with witnesses and the chance of overlooking an important witness was inherent, this calculated risk appeared the most practical way to solve the problems.

The Letter

A personal request from Unruh was prepared, with the assistance of investigators. The appeal did not give the appearance of an official request; however, it directed return correspondence to the Los Angeles Police Department. A special post office box was rented for the purpose of receiving the replies.

The letter read as follows:

"I request your assistance on behalf of all of us who are deeply concerned that the interests of justice be served in the aftermath of the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

I would appreciate your cooperation in furnishing the Los Angeles Police Department with a handwritten statement indicating whether you were present at the Ambassador Hotel on June 4/5, 1968. Please include your address, phone number

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

and any additional information which may be pertinent to the investigation of the assassination.

Address your replies to the:

Los Angeles Police Department, S.U.S.
Box 2751 Main Office
Los Angeles, California 90053

Thank you for your assistance.

Jesse M. Unruh
Chairman
California Democratic Delegation

The roster of volunteers approximated 10,500 in the Southern California area and it was decided that the letters would be sent to this group. The letters were mailed by the Kennedy Campaign Headquarters during the week of August 12 to 16, 1968.

Response to The Letter

The first response were received on August 21, 1968, when three letters arrived. August 22nd five more were received and on August 23rd an additional forty-one. The response remained extremely slow and the last letter was received on December 2, 1968.

Summary

A total of 193 letters were received in response to the Unruh letter. 107 of them indicated the writer was not at the hotel the night of the shooting. Fifty-eight stated they were present and seventeen letters resulted in new interviews. These interviews did not produce any new channels of investigation. Eleven letters received from persons who were previously interviewed did not furnish information that required reinterviews. It

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

was initially anticipated that response would be large and a team of investigators was assigned to the specific responsibility of follow-up on the letters. The team was not utilized.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

GUN RANGE CHECKS

Public and private firing ranges in Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties were canvassed to determine if Sirhan had used additional ranges to practice with his pistol. Several of Sirhan's friends, his family and principals in the conspiracy portion of the investigation were also checked against the rosters maintained at the ranges.

The initial phase of the investigation included the locating of ranges, determining if pistol firing was allowed, determining if it was a public or private range, and if the public was allowed to shoot at the private ranges. In addition it had to be determined if a roster was maintained at each location.

The ranges were located through the Tax Records in Los Angeles County, the Sheriff's range inspection deputy in San Bernardino County, the Sheriff's Offices in Orange and Riverside Counties, range lists from the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club and by asking rangemasters the location of other local ranges.

Each police agency in the Orange-Los Angeles County area was contacted in an effort to locate additional ranges where a private citizen could shoot; however, it was learned that most Departments maintain ranges for officers only.

The second phase of the investigation, the actual examination of range rosters, was accomplished in one of three manners: (1) examining the roster at the range (Reserved for short lists;

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

(2) reproducing the rosters and the transporting the copies to S.U.S. for examination; or (3) borrowing the rosters and transporting them to S.U.S., examining them, then either mailing or transporting them back to the range. Rosters covering the months of February through June 1968, were examined.

The names on the rosters were compared with the following list of names:

Charach, Theodore
Crocco, Emile Jerald
Crowe, Walter
Divale, William T.
Duarte, Jose
Fahey, John
Faura, Fernando
Gearhart, John
Good, Thomas
Khan, Khaibar
Owen, Jerry
aka Oliver Jerry Owen
Prestwood, Robert
Sirhan, Adel
Sirhan, Munir
Sirhan, Saidallah
Sirhan, Sharif
Sirhan, Sirhan
Walsworth, James R.
Walsworth, John Michael
Walsworth, Leroy G.
Weisberg, Harold
Witkowski, Larry T.
Witkowski, Thomas M.

Los Angeles County

Twenty-six ranges were checked in Los Angeles County, ten of which allowed pistol shooting and maintained rosters. Lists including approximately 52,000 names were reviewed in the county.

The following is a list of ranges and the results of each investigation:

Los Angeles Police Department Academy - Los Angeles
Does not maintain a roster.

Tri-City Rifle and Pistol Range - Maywood
Roster of 3,400 names - Negative results.

National Quick Draw Range - Los Angeles
No range currently at this location.

Burbank Rifle and Revolver Club - Burbank
Range gone out of business.

L. A. Rifle Club Inc. - El Monte
Does not maintain a roster.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Sportman's Supply Co. - Huntington Park
Roster of 750 names - Negative results.

Long Beach Police Pistol Range - Long Beach
A roster of 20,000 names - Negative results

Centinella Pistol Range - Inglewood
No roster maintained.

Harbor Division Range - L.A.P.D. - San Pedro
Roster of 200 names - Negative results.

Pettygrove Range - Los Angeles
Trap and Skeet shooting only - No rosters.

Redondo Beach Pistol Range - Redondo Beach
No roster maintained.

Torrance Pistol Range - Torrance
Range no longer exists.

West Los Angeles Range, L.A.P.D. - West Los Angeles
Roster of 1,500 names - Negative results.

Angeles Shooting Club - Los Angeles
Rosters of 15,000 names - Negative results.

Edward Thompson Range - Saugus
Range no longer exists.

San Fernando Gun Club - San Fernando
Roster of 1,200 names - Negative results.

Robert Hutton Range - Topanga
Rosters of 2,500 names - Negative results.

Parec Corporation - Chatsworth
Skeet and Trap shooting only.

Golden Valley Rifle and Pistol Range - Pacoima
No rosters maintained.

North Hollywood Sportsman's Club - North Hollywood
No pistol shooting - No rosters.

Gasco Rod and Gun Club - Los Angeles
Private club, members only.

Grandad's Range - Palmdale
Roster of 1,500 names - Negative results.

Larsen's Pistol and Rifle Range - Torrance
Roster of 6,000 names - Negative results.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Pasadena Rifle and Revolver Club - Pasadena
Did not maintain rosters at that time.

Pacific International Inc. - El Monte
Trap and Skeet shooting only.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Range - East Los Angeles
Firing for law enforcement officers only.

Orange County

Five ranges were contacted in Orange County. One range produced a roster of 20,000 names, the others did not maintain rosters. Twelve police departments were contacted and all of them indicated that either they did not have ranges or that they did not allow the public to fire at their facilities.

The following public ranges were contacted:

Silverado Sportsman Club - Silverado Canyon
Destroy rosters after three months.

Laguna Hills Gun Club - Laguna Hills
Private - Skeet shooting only.

North Orange County Junior College District - Yorba Linda
Does not maintain rosters.

Orange County Peace Officers Association - Orange
Roster of 20,000 names - Negative results.

San Bernardino County

Six ranges were contacted in San Bernardino County. Two produced rosters which contained a total of 4,000 names.

The following ranges were contacted:

Glenhowet Rehabilitation Center - San Bernardino
Peace officers only - No roster.

Perris Hill Range - San Bernardino
Roster of 2,000 names - Negative results.

Westminister Gun Club - Redlands
Skeet and Trap shooting only.

Yucaipa Gun Club - Yucaipa
Members only - No roster.

Inland Fish and Game Range - Redlands
Unable to locate any records due to administrative changes.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

West End Gun Club - Upland
Roster of 2,000 names - Negative results.

Riverside County

Seven ranges were contacted in Riverside County. Only one maintained a roster, the Corona Police Range. Sirhan's name appeared on that range's roster for June 1, 1968. A complete investigation was conducted by the Case Preparation Team.

The following ranges were contacted:

Riverside Rifle and Pistol Club - Riverside
Do not maintain rosters.

Hillside Gun Club - Sunnymead
Do not maintain rosters.

Riverside Police Range - Riverside
Officers only.

Riverside County Sheriff's Range - Riverside
Officers only.

West Riverside Gun Club - Rubidoux
Members only - No rosters.

Hidden Valley Gun Club - Riverside
No rosters maintained.

Corona Police Department Range - Corona
Roster - Sirhan appeared on roster June 1, 1968.

Summary

Rosters totaling approximately 76,000 names were examined during this investigation. The results were negative with the exception of the Corona range.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FIELD INTERROGATION CARDS

The Field Interview card files of the Department for 1967 and 1968 were examined at all geographical divisions. The search was conducted by an S.U.S. investigator in December 1968 and included both pedestrian and vehicle Field Interviews. The following names were checked:

Charach, Theodore
Crocco, Emile Jerald
Crowe, Walter
Divale, William T.
Duarte, Jose
Fahey, John
Faura, Fernando
Gearhart, John
Good, Thomas
Khan, Khaibar
Owen, Jerry aka Oliver Jerry Owen
Sirhan, Adel
Sirhan, Munir
Sirhan, Saidallah
Sirhan, Sharif
Sirhan, Sirhan
Walsworth, James R.
Walsworth, John Michael
Walsworth, Leroy George
Weisberg, Harold
Witkowski, Larry Thomas
Witkowski, Thomas Michael

The search resulted in the discovery of two Field Interviews on the following persons: Walter Crowe and William Divale. They were interrogated together on May 19, 1967, in West Los Angeles Division. The information on the cards was determined to be insignificant to the investigation. Prior statements made by the two men during the investigation indicated that they attended U.C.L.A. together and knew one another at that time. No Field Interview cards were found on any of the other persons listed above.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

TELEPHONE CALLS FROM THE SIRHAN HOME

Investigators reviewed telephone company records of long distance and multi-message unit calls originating from the telephone at the Sirhan residence. The phone was listed in the name of Adel Sirhan.

The calls made between November 6, 1967 and July 1, 1968, were examined and the recipient of each call was identified and interviewed. A total of 168 calls were recorded during this period, sixteen were long distance and the remainder were multi-message unit. All sixteen long distance calls were between the Sirhan residence and the work locations of Eileen Murphy, Adel Sirhan's fiance. Thirty-five of the message unit calls were to her Los Angeles address.

The remainder of the calls were routine business or social calls made by the Sirhan brothers. Investigators found no evidence that the telephone calls from the Sirhan residence were related to the assassination.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

GUN SHOP INVESTIGATIONS

To obtain information regarding the possible purchase of ammunition by Sirhan, twenty-one gun shops and sporting goods stores were checked in the San Gabriel Valley area.

These locations were chosen on the basis of their proximity to the Sirhan residence and the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club. Proprietors and employees were shown mug photos of Sirhan and asked if they had seen or knew anything about this person. All results were negative.

Those interviewed stated that it was impossible for them to remember any one person due to the number of people that purchase .22 caliber ammunition. The following is a list of all gun shops and sporting goods stores contacted.

Holiday House
877 East Colorado Blvd.
Pasadena

Noren Sporting Goods
333 East Colorado Blvd.
Pasadena

Hollywood Sporting Goods
99 East Colorado Blvd.
Pasadena

Alta Sports
8958 Hunt Dr.
San Gabriel

Big "5" Sporting Goods
3719 East Colorado Blvd.
Pasadena

Sportsmen's Den
5011 York Blvd.
Pasadena

Verdugo Hardware
3516 Eagle Rock
Eagle Rock

Garvey Hardware Inc.
122 West Garvey
Monterey Park

Eagle Rock Sporting Goods
4985 Eagle Rock
Eagle Rock

Parry's Sporting Goods
8828 Valley Blvd.
Rosemead

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Harry W. Sanford Firearms
2480 East Colorado
Pasadena
(formerly located at
2620 East Colorado)

Eastern Firearms Corporation
790 South Arroyo Parkway
Pasadena

Jackman's Sporting Goods
7109 North Figueroa
Los Angeles

Bain & Davis Sporting Goods
559 West Las Tunas Dr.
San Gabriel

Jeff's Sporting Goods
303 East Valley Blvd.
San Gabriel

Bill's Marine & Ski Shop
6087 York Blvd.
Los Angeles

Sports World
2477 Huntington Dr.
San Marino

Scott's Sporting Goods
145 East Garvey
Monterey Park

Anderson's Sporting Goods
1412 South Baldwin
Arcadia

Army & Navy Store
240 West Main St.
Alhambra

Max West Sporting Goods
129 West Main St.
Alhambra

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

CHAPTER VII

LEGAL PROCESSES (FROM ARRAIGNMENT TO TRIAL)

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

On June 5, 1968, at 7:08 a.m., Sirhan Sirhan was arraigned in Division 40, Los Angeles Municipal Court, by Judge Joan Dempsey Klein. Sirhan was represented by L.A. County Public Defender Richard Buckley and Deputy District Attorney John Howard appeared for the prosecution. Sirhan identified himself as John Doe. The complaint alleged a violation of six counts of 217 P.C., Assault with Intent to Commit Murder. Bail was set at $250.000.

Grand Jury Indictment on June 7th

On June 7, 1968, at 9 a.m., the Los Angeles County Grand Jury began receiving testimony for a murder indictment against Sirhan B. Sirhan. The twenty-two member jury was called to order and given the defendant's name. They were advised that Sirhan had shot Senator Robert F. Kennedy and five other individuals on June 5, 1968, at approximately 12:20 a.m. Senator Kennedy died 1:44 a.m., the following morning. The jurors were asked if any were prevented from rendering an impartial or prejudiced finding. There was no response and all twenty-two jurors remained.

Twenty-three witnesses were called and testified. Deputy District Attorneys John Howard, Morio L. Fukuto and John W. Miner represented the Office of the District Attorney. The proceedings were concluded at 3:52 p.m. At 4:25 p.m., the Grand Jury appeared in Department 100 of the Superior Court before the Honorable Arthur L. Alarcon, Judge Presiding. The court determined that the indictment was a true bill and ordered a bench warrant to be issued, no bail. The jurors, court clerks, court stenographer

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

and transcribers were admonished not to discuss the case.

At the request of the court, A. L. Wirin, Chief Counsel of the American Civil Liberties Union, was present as an official observer at these proceedings, for the purpose of witnessing the manner in which the constitutional and procedural rights of the defendant were obeyed and preserved. Deputy District Attorney John Howard informed the court that the defendant was in custody at the Sheriff's medical facility in the Los Angeles County Central Jail. Howard also stated that he had been informed that there was a security risk in connection with the defendant. The court ordered a recess in order to reconvene in a special session of Department 100 at a temporary courtroom provided by the Los Angeles County Sheriff at the Los Angeles County Central Jail.

At 5:45 p.m., Department 100 reconvened. The People were represented by Howard, Fukuto and Daniel R. Johnson, Deputy District Attorneys. The defendant was present and represented by Richard S. Buckley, Public Defender and Wilbur F. Littlefield, Chief Trial Deputy Public Defender. Wirin was also present at the court's request as an observer and officer of the court. Sirhan was informed that an indictment had been returned charging him with murder and five counts of Assault With a Deadly Weapon, With Intent to Commit Murder. Sirhan informed the court that he did not have the funds to hire an attorney. The court appointed the Public Defender and noted the presence of Buckley and Littlefield. The defendant's constitutional rights were read, and he was asked if he had any questions. He replied, "No, sir."

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Howard informed the court that Buckley had received the original copy of the indictment. The formal charge was then read by Howard. Buckley informed the court that he was assigning Littlefield to handle the case. Littlefield informed the court that the defendant was not ready to enter a plea at this time. Littlefield requested two psychiatrists be appointed for the purpose of ascertaining Sirhan's mental condition at the time of the offenses and at the present time. Dr. Eric Marcus and Dr. Edward Stainbrook were appointed.

Wirin addressed the court as to his observations June 5th through June 7th. He had followed the court proceedings with great concern and opined that the court had fully accorded all of Sirhan's constitutional rights. He stated that Buckley advised him June 5, 1968, that Sirhan had requested an attorney from the American Civil Liberties Union. Wirin stated he counselled Sirhan on several occasions between June 5th and June 7th. This was solely to advise Sirhan of his constitutional rights, particularly in connection with the right to counsel. Wirin stated that the District Attorney, Evelle J. Younger, his staff; the Public Defender, Richard S. Buckley, his staff; the Chief of Police, Thomas Reddin; and Sheriff Peter Pitchess had shown determination in protecting Sirhan's rights, granting every reasonable request made by Sirhan.

Judge Alarcon then issued an order prohibiting any party connected with the lawsuit from making extra judiciary statements, releasing any evidence, documents, or exhibits. The order exempted witnesses who might discuss any matter with an attorney of record

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

or his agent. It also excluded from the order certain minimum information such as quotations from public records, results of judicial proceedings and limited facts concerning the offense and the arrest. The matter was continued for pleading until June 28, 1968.

Court Appearance of June 28th

On June 28, 1968, at 9 a.m., Department 100 of the Superior Court, Judge Richard Schauer presiding, convened in the auditorium of the Los Angeles County Central Jail in a temporary courtroom. Russell E. Parsons appeared for Sirhan in place of the Public Defender and submitted a signed substitution accepting the responsibility. The motion to substitute was granted. The People were represented by District Attorney Evelle J. Younger, Deputy District Attorneys David Fitts and John Howard. Parsons informed the court that Sirhan was not ready to plead and requested a three-week continuance. He also informed the court that Dr. Edward Stainbrook, one of the two court appointed psychiatrists, had declined to act. Dr. George Y. Abe was then appointed by the court. The matter was continued until July 19, 1968, at 9 a.m.

July 19th - Continuance Granted, Motion to Modify Alarcon Admontion

On July 19, 1968, 9 a.m., Department 100 convened in the Hall of Justice, using special courtroom facility in the jail portion of the building on the 13th floor. District Attorney Younger, Deputy District Attorney Lynn Compton appeared for the People, and Parsons represented Sirhan. Parsons indicated he was not ready to plead since Dr. Marcus and Dr. Abe had not completed their reports and the court concurred that the defense had

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

reasonable grounds for a continuance. Younger made a notice of motion to vacate or modify the order of June 7, 1968, concerning publicity. Parsons indicated he opposed such a motion. The proceedings were then continued until August 2, 1968.

Alarcon Admonition Extended, Sirhan Pleads Not Guilty

On August 2, 1968, 9 a.m., Department 100 was called to order by Judge Richard Schauer in the temporary courtroom on the thirteenth floor. Judicial notice was taken of Sirhan, Parsons, Younger, Fitts and Howard. Wirin and Fred Ocrand appeared as amicus curiae (friends of the court) and submitted briefs on the motion to vacate or modify the order restricting publicity. Younger indicated that the fundamental concepts of the Constitution allows the people to know as much as possible about the way the government is performing. The attention given in the press insofar as any criminal case is concerned does not necessarily mean that there is prejudice involved. The District Attorney should be permitted to answer in the public interest and in some cases the defendant's own interest, but questions cannot be answered under the present order. The following questions were cited:

1. Are you going to call a coroner or Mrs. Robert Kennedy or Roosevelt Grier?
2. Was there a conspiracy to assassinate Senator Kennedy? Is there any Foreign Government connected with the assassination?
3. Was there more than one gun fired?
4. Any evidence that the brothers were involved in this?

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The court made the following observations: "Who is to judge whether a certain comment is prejudicial? I would make that judgement after the statement was made. Initially the person who makes the comment would have to make the judgement as to whether it was prejudicial or not. If I decide after the fact, and correctly, that it was prejudicial when it was made, I am deciding too late." Arguments were concluded, and the court denied the motion. Parsons indicated that Sirhan was ready to plead. Fitts read the charges, followed by a Not Guilty plea by Sirhan which was concurred by Parsons. The trial date was set for November 1, 1968, at 9 a.m. The judge stated he would designate the trial court and assignment at a later date. Proceedings were continued to October 4, 1968, at 9 a.m., in Department 100.

District Attorney Appeals Ruling on Alarcon Admonition

On September 10, 1968, District Attorney Evelle Younger submitted to the State Court of Appeal a request that the Court Order limiting publicity in the Sirhan Case be modified. On September 25, 1968, the California State Court of Appeals denied the petition.

Location of Trial and Trial Judge Designated

On September 19, 1968, Judge Richard Schauer, of the Master Calendar Criminal Department, selected Superior Court Judge Herbert V. Walker as the Trial Magistrate. Schauer designated Department 107, Room 832, Hall of Justice, as the courtroom.

Motion for Continuance and Suppression of Evidence

On October 4, 1968, Judge Richard Schauer convened in Department

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

100-A, in the makeshift courtroom on the thirteenth floor of the Hall of Justice. Russell Parsons represented Sirhan and Lynn Compton, John Howard and David Fitts appeared for the People. Parsons requested that the trial dated of November 1, 1968, be postponed. Judge Schauer set October 14, 1968, as the date for a hearing on the motion for continuance and on motions to suppress evidence. The proceedings were continued until October 14, 1968.

Discovery Motion Granted, Trial Continued to December 9th

On October 14, 1968, court was convened by Judge Herbert V. Walker in Department 100-A. Sirhan and Parsons were present. Representing the People were Compton, Howard and Fitts. Three motions were before the court:

(1) Motion for Discovery.

(2) Motion for Continuance.

(3) Motion for Suppression of Evidence.

The motion for discovery was granted and Fitts surrendered 111 statements of prospective witnesses, six transcripts of interviews with Sirhan, and a seven-page report covering the activities of Los Angeles police officers on June 5, 1968. Parsons's request for a continuance of the trial date was granted and the trial date was reset for December 9, 1968. Parsons requested that a continuance be allowed until October 22nd as to the Motion to Suppress, alleging that a key witness was out of the state. The court granted the continuance, ordering the court to reconvene in Department 100-A on October 22nd.

Motion to Suppress Denied

On October 22, 1968, at 9 a.m., Department 107-A was convened by

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Judge Herbert V. Walker on the thirteenth floor in the Hall of Justice. Representing the People were Compton, Howard and Fitts. The defense was represented by Parsons. The order of business under consideration was a motion by the defense to suppress evidence taken from the Sirhan residence June 5, 1968. The court indicated that the points of authority submitted by the defense and prosecution had been received. The defense contended that the search of the Sirhan home at 696 East Howard, Pasadena, was illegal. Sirhan was not present, had been arrested over twelve miles from the home and a search warrant was not obtained. The people offered that the search was not unreasonable as the officers had permission from Adel Sirhan, the oldest male occupant residing at the home.

Sgt. William Brandt, Rampart Detectives, Los Angeles Police Department, testified that he interviewed Adel Sirhan, June 5, 1968. Brandt determined that Adel Sirhan was the oldest brother living at home and Sirhan's father was out of the country. Adel Sirhan requested the officers not to contact his mother since she was working and did not know of Sirhan's arrest. Brandt asked Adel Sirhan if he objected to a search of the home and Adel gave his consent. After directing officers to his home, Adel unlocked the door and led the officers through the house including Sirhan Sirhan's room. A search of the bedroom revealed two 8½ by 11" notebooks, one 3" by 5" notebook, a U.S. Treasury Department envelope and other various items. Each of the specifically mentioned items had handwriting which later was identified as belonging to Sirhan Sirhan.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Officer D. A. Lodolo testified that he interviewed Munir Sirhan at the Pasadena Police Department on June 5, 1968, and received permission to search the home.

Adel Sirhan, called by the defense, corroborated the testimony of Brandt, in that, he gave officers permission to search. He also testified that he requested officers not to notify his mother, since she was working and unaware of the arrest.

Munir Sirhan testified he had not given permission for the search.

Mary Sirhan testified for the defense. She identified Sirhan B. Sirhan as her son. She was not contacted by the police and did not give permission for the search. A Grant Deed was produced by Mary Sirhan that indicated her name alone appeared on the deed since 1963. In 1962 Adel and Mary Sirhan's names appeared on the deed.

Sgt. Gordon Harrison, called by the prosecution, testified as a rebuttal witness. He had a conversation with Munir Sirhan at the Pasadena Police Department and received permission to search the home. Judge Walker ruled that the motion by the defense to suppress was denied as the search was not unreasonable. Department 107-A was adjourned until December 9, 1968.

Attorney Grant Cooper Entered Case

On December 3, 1968, Attorney Grant B. Cooper appeared in Department 107-A with the defendant and Attorney Parsons. Parsons presented a motion which would allow Grant Cooper to become associated with the defense. The motion was granted and Cooper

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

requested a continuance until January 7, 1969. The delay was to allow Cooper time to completely familarize himself with the case. Cooper indicated that an attorney from New York, Emile Zola Berman, would also be assisting in the case. Cooper assured the court that the fact that Berman was entering the case at that late stage would not cause another delay.

On December 18, 1968, Berman officially entered the case. On December 23, 1968, court reconvened and a motion for discovery was made by the defense and was granted by the court. On January 6, 1969, the first of the preliminary sessions of the trial started.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

REQUEST TO PARSONS FOR INTERVIEW OF SIRHAN

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

REQUEST TO PARSONS FOR INTERVIEW OF SIRHAN

On July 7, 1968, Sergeant L. Sandlin had a telephone conversation with Attorney Russell Parsons and made two requests: (1) that the Sirhan brothers be viewed in a show up, and (2) investigators be allowed to interview Sirhan B. Sirhan. The show up would either eliminate or establish the possibility that Sirhan was accompanied by one of his brothers at the time some ammunition was purchased. The show up would be viewed by employees of the Lock Stock 'N Barrel Gun Shop. Larry Arnot, an employee there, recalled that he had sold some ammunition to Sirhan and tenatively identified Munir Sirhan as being in the store at the time.

Parsons indicated he would have to speak to the family before he could give an answer to this request. He was asked if an interview with Sirhan could be arranged. Parsons stated, "I don't believe it's permissible for you to interview Sirhan at this time. I don't believe a court would make an order. I'll give it some thought and notify you within two days."

On July 24, 1968, Sergeants Sandlin and T. Strong went to Parsons' office and reiterated their requests. Parsons quoted Justice Black of the United States Supreme Court as saying, "A lawyer who permits his client to talk to the police isn't worth his salt." Parsons stated he would talk to the Sirhan family regarding the show up and give an answer after the weekend. Parsons has not contacted officers, and the requests were not renewed.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

CHAPTER VIII

RELATED EVENTS OCCURRING SINCE THE ASSASSINATION

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

EVENTS INVOLVING SIRHAN'S FAMILY SINCE THE SHOOTING

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

EVENTS INVOLVING SIRHAN'S FAMILY SINCE THE SHOOTING

On June 5, 1968, after Sirhan Bishara Sirhan was identified as the suspect in the Robert Kennedy shooting, the Pasadena Police Department stationed two uniformed officers at his residence, 696 East Howard Street. Security was provided to protect the Sirhan family and prevent sightseers from gathering at that location. Pasadena kept a 24-hour security detail at the location and continued it until December 13, 1968, when they considered the location secure enough to remove the officers. An open phone line was then installed whereby the Sirhan family could call directly to the police dispatcher for immediate response to their call for assistance.

There were no incidents of violence perpetrated against the Sirhan home during the first six months following the assassination. The following incidents were reported involving the members of the Sirhan family:

Robbery of Saidallah Sirhan

Threats Against the Family

Threat Against Sharif Sirhan

Freeway Shooting Incident

Threatening Phone Call to Saidallah Sirhan

Threatening Letter from Vietnam

Family Attorney Threatened

A Letter to the Nixon Headquarters

Disturbance at the Sirhan Home

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Robbery of Saidallah Sirhan

On June 5, 1968, Saidallah Sirhan was living in an apartment at 1659 North Lake Avenue. He was contacted that night by two reporters from Life Magazine, Robert B. Kaiser and Howard Bingham. He stated that they were very polite and requested a photograph of him, which he refused to give them. The two reporters completed the interview and left the residence without an incident.

At approximately 11:30 p.m. he heard someone kick on his front door. He answered the door and just as he unlocked the screen, the door was kicked open. A man rushed through the door and struck Sirhan in the cheek with his fist and stated, "Damn it, we're gonna kill all you Arabs." The man went into the living room, Sirhan sat down on the sofa and the man told him to calm down.

The man stated, "If you don't give your photograph to Life, we're gonna take it from you." He took a photograph of Sirhan from a small table and walked out of the apartment. Another man was with the one who entered Sirhan's apartment, but he did not enter.

Sirhan stated that he could identify the man who entered his house, but did not know who he was at that time. The only description he could furnish of the man who remained outdoors was that he was wearing glasses.

The Pasadena Police Department Crime Lab examined the apartment

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

at 1659 North Lake Avenue and determined the door lock to have been forced open from the outside causing the bolt to be separated from the unit into which it slides. One latent print was lifted from the exterior side of the inner screen door, but has not been identified.

On July 6, 1968, Lt. G. W. Wright, Pasadena Police Department investigator, found the two reporters who had interviewed Saidallah Sirhan on the 5th. It was obvious to the Lieutenant that these two men did not fit the description of the robbery suspects. Mr. Jordan Bonfante, Bureau Chief of Time-Life in Los Angeles, denied all charges that any of his reporters were involved in the case. Sirhan was contacted in an attempt to gain further information regarding the suspects; and, at that time he stated he did not wish to press the issue any further and desired the investigation be closed. The case was closed at that time.

Threats Against the Sirhan Family

On June 20, 1968, the F.B.I. Special Agent in Charge, Wesley G. Grapp, forwarded information to the Los Angeles Police Department that they had received an anonymous letter which stated the following: "If Sirhan don't confess, we'll kill all his family. His mother is next in line. We mean business." The letters making up this threat were cut out from newsprint and placed on a page of the National Police Gazette of June, 1968.

Threat Against Sharif Sirhan

On June 21, 1968, at 6:45 p.m., Frank Thornton, the gate guard

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

at I.T.T. Cannon Electric Company, 3208 Humboldt Street, Los Angeles, received a telephone call from an anonymous male caller who sounded drunk. The caller stated, "Do you have a swing shift working?" When Thornton answered in the affirmative, the caller stated, "Do you have Sirhan working?" Thornton advised that he did not know the employees' names. The caller stated, "You tell him I'll be waiting outside tonight and I'll get him when he leaves." The caller then terminated the conversation. Frank Widman, Shift Superintendent, I.T.T. Cannon Electric Company, notified the Police Department, and Officer A. S. Flores was dispatched at 10:30 p.m., June 21, 1968. Flores' investigation disclosed that Sirhan was due to go off shift at 1:00 a.m., June 22, 1968.

At 1:00 a.m. Officers W. Guiterrez, T. L. Russi and Sgt. L. J. Sale escorted Sharif Sirhan from the premises. They first examined his vehicle for possible explosive devices with negative results. Sirhan drove from the premises in his vehicle, and the officers followed him to the Pasadena City limits. No unusual incidents occurred at the plant or on the freeway en route to Pasadena.

Mr. Thornton additionally advised Mr. Widman that the caller sounded like an employee of the plant by the name of Marine Aguirre. The time cards were checked, and it was found that Mr. Aguirre was not at work at the time of the call.

Aguirre was interviewed on June 26, 1968, regarding the telephone threat against the life of Sharif Sirhan at I.T.T. Aguirre

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

denied making the threat; however, he admitted that he did not report for work on Friday night, June 21. He stated he had been out drinking and forgot to show up for his shift which was scheduled to start at 4:30 p.m. Aguirre stated he had known Sharif Sirhan for approximately three years and had lived in the same hotel as Sharif for two and a half years. They have met socially and on one occasion Sharif invited him to his mother's home in Pasadena for dinner.

Aguirre stated he neither likes nor dislikes Sharif; however, he stated he was very upset when Senator Kennedy was assassinated. Aguirre repeated his denial of making the threatening phone call, but refused to submit to a polygraph examination, stating that he had submitted to one in the past and did not trust it.

Thornton stated that he was unable to positively identify the voice on the telephone as being Aguirre's. There being no further evidence at that time that Aguirre was the suspect, he was admonished regarding the seriousness of telephonic threats and advised of the legal consequences of indulging in this type of activity. No further incidents have been reported involving the I.T.T. Electric Company.

Freeway Shooting Incident

On July 3, 1968, at 4:45 a.m., Saidallah Sirhan appeared at the Pasadena Police Station and reported to the desk officer that someone fired a gun at him while he drove his car on the Pasadena Freeway. Sirhan gave the following account of the

2025-RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

incident:

He went to Los Angeles at approximately 4:00 a.m. to contact a writer associated with the Free Press, Lisa Williams, who allegedly lived on 92nd or 93rd Street. He was unable to contact the writer and began his return to Pasadena. Prior to entering the tunnels on the outbound Pasadena Freeway, he noticed a Chevrolet driving alongside of his car in the left lane and a Volkswagen bus directly behind him. After passing through the tunnels, he moved to the center lane and found himself beside the Chevrolet which was still driving in the number one lane. The Volkswagen bus pulled into the number three lane and drove beside Sirhan's car on his right side. He traveled several miles in this manner and estimated his speed at 55 miles per hour. The Volkswagen bus changed lanes several times. It positioned itself behind his car, back on the right side and continued changing back and forth in this manner. When the three vehicles reached the Pasadena City limits, the Chevrolet began crowding him from his left and the Volkswagen bus began edging in from his right. Sirhan stated this appeared to him to be a maneuver to cut him off.

He slowed down slightly to avoid colliding with one of the two vehicles and noticed the driver of the Volkswagen bus pointing a gun at him. The driver was holding the gun in his right hand in front of his chest. When he observed the gun, he immediately let go of the steering wheel and leaned over to the right and lay down on the front seat. He heard gunshots and his right

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

wind-wing was shattered by two bullets. At that time he let go of the steering wheel and removed his foot from the accelerator. He remained in this position for approximately ten seconds.

He sat up and regained control of his vehicle as he observed the two vehicles exit the freeway via the Glenarm Street off-ramp. He reported the two vehicles entered the intersection against a flashing red light without stopping. The Chevrolet turned left and the Volkswagen turned right. Sirhan stated that he drove directly to the Pasadena Police Station to report the incident.

A follow-up investigation was conducted by Pasadena Detective Ben Hetherington and Los Angeles Police Officers R. C. Harris and J. H. Shaw. This investigation began at approximately 10:00 a.m. on July 3, 1968. Sirhan accompanied investigators and retraced his alleged route of travel. He stated to investigators that he did not stop from the time he left his residence until the time he arrived at the Pasadena Police Station. With an officer driving, Sirhan directed them to Los Angeles via the Pasadena Freeway to a location in Hollywood near Virgil and Beverly Boulevard; after a series of turns they returned to the Pasadena Freeway from Hill Street. The investigators and Sirhan continued the route to the Pasadena Police Station. Sirhan instructed the investigators what speeds to drive, and at that time it was determined that the entire trip took 55 minutes.

While retracing the route, Sirhan was questioned about any

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

persons or vehicles he may have observed. He stated that he did not talk to anyone during the trip, and the only vehicles he could remember were those occupied by the alleged suspects.

Sirhan stated that he met the Free Press writer, Mrs. Williams, at a sandal shop on Fair Oaks Avenue in Pasadena. He had visited the shop several times and had been introduced to her by the shop owner. He intended to talk to Mrs. Williams to have her write a story about himself and his family. Sirhan stated that he went to the location at 4:00 a.m. because he doesn't like to move around during the day. He said that there were too many people on the street, and he felt safer at that hour. He stated that he did not have an appointment with Mrs. Williams and that he was not exactly sure what time it was when he left his apartment. Sirhan stated he had spent the evening and early morning hours prior to the trip at his home reading. He was asked what caused him to anticipate finding Mrs. Williams at 4:00 a.m. He stated that he had telephoned the office of the Free Press the afternoon of July 2 and had been given her address. The address he was in possession of was 3410 Thetasol, and the phone number was 254-0123. Sirhan stated that he was unable to contact the writer and was returning to his home when the shooting incident occurred. Sirhan provided investigators with a description of both vehicles and seven Caucasian suspects. The descriptions of the suspects were vague, and Sirhan was unable to furnish any further information.

Sirhan was requested to take a polygraph examination to substantiate the facts of the incident. He agreed to the examination,

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

and it was administered by Sgt. Frazer of the Pasadena Police Department. At the completion of the examination, Sgt. Frazer expressed the opinion that on key questions Sirhan showed negative and deceptive patterns and that he had been untruthful regarding the incident. Sirhan was reinterviewed and gave permission for investigators to search his vehicle, garage and apartment. During the search, investigators discovered a carrying case for a United States Army carbine, a bandolier containing empty carbine magazines and a cleaning rod for a .38 caliber revolver. These items were booked by Pasadena Police Department.

Examination of Sirhan's Vehicle

Sirhan's vehicle, 1955 De Soto two-door, white with black primer spots, 1968 California license QTP 455, was examined and officers found two bullet holes in the upper portion of the right front door wind-wing. One slug was found imbedded in the left door. The other ricocheted off the left door, traveled upward striking the top of the car and dropped onto a jacket lying on the floor. Both projectiles were located and booked by the Pasadena Police Department. Glass fragments found inside the vehicle, apparently from the broken window, were also collected and booked as evidence.

Pasadena Police Department records were searched, and it was found that Saidallah Sirhan reported the loss of a .38 caliber revolver on March 31, 1966. In this report he stated that the gun belonged to a friend, Abraham Alex, who had given it to him to repair. He also stated that he may have inadvertently discarded the weapon in the trash.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The traffic signals at Glenarm Avenue and the Pasadena Freeway are three-phase tri-color lights that operate on all phases twenty-four hours a day. They are not set on a flashing phase at any time. This information was stated to Sirhan, and he again stated that these lights were flashing shortly after the freeway shooting incident.

Interview with Mrs. Williams and David Shackett

On July 4, 1968, Elizabeth Gold, pen name Lisa Williams, was interviewed by investigators. She stated that she met Saidallah Sirhan in the first week of June at Dave's Sandal Shop on Fair Oaks Avenue in Pasadena. She and Sirhan were both acquainted with Dave, but she was not very familiar with Sirhan. She was introduced to Sirhan by Dave and had a short conversation with him about cooking rice. She doesn't remember mentioning to Sirhan that she was a writer for the Free Press. She added that she is not a staff member, but on occasion has written for the publication. She stated she made no appointment with Saidallah Sirhan and had no knowledge why he would attempt to contact her at such an unusual hour.

David Shackett, the owner of Dave's Sandal Shop at 68 North Fair Oaks Avenue was interviewed on July 5, 1968. He remembered meeting Saidallah Sirhan at the sandal shop and introducing him to Lisa Williams. He stated that he had talked with Sirhan about Lisa Williams. One of these occasions was approximately two weeks after the death of Senator Kennedy. During this conversation, Sirhan had informed Shackett that he wanted a book written and wanted to know if Lisa Williams would write it for

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

him.

On Tuesday, July 2, 1968, Shackett received a phone call from Saidallah Sirhan who stated that he would like to meet Lisa Williams and requested Shackett to accompany him and introduce them. Shackett gave Sirhan the address and phone number of Lisa Williams, but did not go with him. He did, however, check the phone number he had given Sirhan and found that the phone had been disconnected. In an effort to assist Sirhan in locating Lisa Williams, Saidallah sent a telegram to the old address asking her to contact him. He did not receive a reply and learned later that he had sent it to the wrong address.

Witnesses Who Knew Saidallah Sirhan Had a Gun

Linda Massri was interviewed on July 4, 1968. She stated that she had been a friend of the Sirhan family since they came to the United States ten years ago. In 1965 while moving Saidallah Sirhan from a Marengo Street address to a North Lake Street address, she observed a rifle in Saidallah's apartment. She was unable to further describe the weapon.

Investigators received information from Abraham Alex that he had observed Saidallah with two guns, a .38 caliber revolver and an unknown caliber chrome-plated revolver. Saidallah informed Alex that both of these guns had once been stolen by Saidallah's ex-girl friend, Linda. One revolver had been recovered by Pasadena Police Department and returned to Alex.

Robert Ritchey was interviewed on July 5, 1968. He stated he had seen Saidallah Sirhan with a .38 caliber revolver which had

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

a four-inch barrel, and a rifle of unknown caliber. Ritchey stated that at one time he received a threatening phone call from the ex-husband of a good friend of his named Rosalie. The ex-husband threatened to come to Pasadena and kill him. After receiving the phone call, he phoned Saidallah and informed him of the incident. Saidallah came to his apartment bringing a .38 caliber revolver and approximately 15 rounds of ammunition. Saidallah stayed at the Ritchey apartment with the pistol for two days to give Ritchey protection in case Rosalie's ex-husband arrived to cause trouble. The ex-husband did not appear at Ritchey's apartment, and no police report was made of this incident. Ritchey stated he had seen the rifle in the closet of Saidallah's apartment at 1659 North Lake Avenue.

Investigation and Polygraph Examination by This Department

On July 5, 1968, Saidallah Sirhan was reinterviewed by Lt. E. Hernandez. He stated that he had gone to sleep during the evening of July 2, 1968, and had set his alarm for 4:00 a.m. on July 3. He arose, drank a cup of tea and left his apartment between 4:15 a.m. and 4:30 a.m. Note: This information conflicted with that given to investigators on July 3.

Sirhan accompanied Lt. Hernandez on a second drive over the route taken on July 3. He instructed Lt. Hernandez concerning the route and speeds to drive while en route. At the termination of the trip, Lt. Hernandez noted that it required one hour and twenty minutes to complete the course. The route was compared with that taken by investigators on the 3rd and several

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

discrepancies were noted, including the location of the shooting.

Sirhan was administered a second polygraph examination by Lt. Hernandez at the Scientific Investigation Division of the Los Angeles Police Department. The results of this examination concurred with that of the examination conducted by the Pasadena Police Department on July 3. The examination revealed that the shooting did not occur on the freeway, that Sirhan had possession of a .38 caliber revolver and that he fired the shots into the vehicle himself. Saidallah Sirhan refused to disclose the location of the revolver or admit fabricating the reported incident.

On July 3, 1968, Mary Valdez was interviewed by investigators. At that time she stated she first met Saidallah Sirhan on Memorial Day in 1968. She stated that she and a friend were hitchhiking on Lake Avenue, and as they walked past Saidallah Sirhan he was driving out of the driveway. He drove them to the United Artist Theater on Colorado. During the ride to the theater, Sirhan gave them his name and address.

The next time she saw Sirhan was two days after the shooting of Senator Kennedy. She saw the picture of Sirhan Sirhan in the newspapers and thought it was Saidallah Sirhan. She had met him at his apartment. He mentioned to her that he was thinking of moving to Arcadia because there were too many people around, and a police guard was at his mother's house. Valdez advised Sirhan that he was welcome to go to her apartment to rest if he

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

wished to get away from reporters and curiosity seekers. The following week Sirhan asked Valdez if he could have his laundry done under her name to avoid publicity.

Valdez stated that she has seen Sirhan on the average of once a week and had been to the family home three or four times since the shooting. She stated she had been inside Sirhan's apartment on Lake Avenue; however, she denied any intimate relationship with him.

Valdez recalled that a couple of days prior to the freeway shooting incident, Sirhan was at her apartment and asked her to purchase some .38 caliber bullets for him. He stated he was reluctant to purchase them himself for fear that he would be forced to leave his name in order to make the purchase. He did not want to give the name Sirhan while purchasing ammunition and felt that he would be required to show identification during the transaction. He mentioned to Valdez that the guns carried by police were powerful enough to penetrate an engine block. She did not purchase any ammunition for him, but advised him that no identification was required for the purchase of ammunition and that he could do it himself. She has not seen him in possession of any guns; and, he had never stated to her that he did own a gun, only that he wanted some .38 caliber ammunition.

Summary of Freeway Shooting Incident

All evidence collected during the investigation tended to agree on one point: that the shooting incident was a fabrication by Saidallah Sirhan, and the shots were fired by him at a location

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

other than the freeway.

Threatening Phone Call to Saidallah Sirhan

On July 4, 1968, Saidallah Sirhan was living at 1659 North Lake Avenue, Apartment #7. He told investigators that at 9:20 a.m. he received a phone call from an unknown person whom he described as a male with a tough voice. This person stated, "Hey listen! You were lucky yesterday. We missed you, but we are going to get you all at the trial." Sirhan stated he hung up the telephone as soon as the suspect made the threat. He could not identify the caller. At 9:40 a.m. the same day, Sirhan moved to the family home at 696 East Howard Street. The Pasadena Police Department furnished extra patrol at the Lake Street location until Sirhan was able to move his furniture out the following weekend.

Threatening Letter from Vietnam

A letter was received at the White House mailing room, August 8, 1968, addressed to the President. It was purportedly sent from "The Gang in Vietnam." The letter stated, "Mr. Johnson We, The Gang in Vietnam Feel That it is Not To Safe To even back To The United State because Everyone is getting Kill Back home, we set and Listen To The News Every day, Today we heard That The Assinate of Robert Kennedy had Plead No Guilty And Think That wrong because we have on The guy in The Gang who were Ther and he saw it, So we fell if he is Freed one of us will Kill him and anyone who get in our way, we hate To See A "INNOCENT" man die For Nothing, So it best you are Some do SomeThing it And

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Fast because Three of us will Leave here on the 1 of Nov The day his Trial Start, and one of us will get him some Kind of way, Sign The Gangs."

The letter was forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and examined in the Crime Laboratory. On August 15, 1968, the laboratory reported that handwriting in the letter had been compared with handwriting received from other sources during this investigation without effecting an identification. The paper had no watermarks or other identifiable marks other than a design printed at the top which appears on correspondence paper usually available to members of the armed forces. This letter is in F.B.I. files for possible later comparison.

Attorney Russell Parsons Threatened

Proxy Phone Service, answering service for Attorney Russell E. Parsons, received a telephone message at 1:34 p.m. on September 2, 1968, from a person who identified himself as C. Sirhan. The message stated, "Step out of case. If my brother is hurt, you will be hurt, you will be hurt. I will kill you." Parsons stated he did not wish to make a complaint based on the threat.

Michael McGowan, investigator for Parsons, stated that he had received threats from both Saidallah and Sharif.

Note: None of the Sirhan brothers has a name beginning with a C.

A Letter to the Nixon Headquarters

On October 25, 1968, a letter was received at the Nixon Headquarters, Willard Hotel, Washington, D.C., with a return address

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

of Sharif B. Sirhan, 696 East Howard Street, Pasadena, California. The postmark indicated the letter had been mailed from Pasadena, California, on the afternoon of October 23, 1968. The letter consisted of a two-page typewritten document attacking the United States policy and involvement in the Mid-East crisis. The final two paragraphs are worth mentioning solely on their content:

"I have asked these questions to Senator Robert Kennedy in May 1968 but he ignored us and went on promising the Zionists with jets so that he gets more votes to get to the White House, here I find myself asking the same questions to you again. Please do not force us to believe in political assassination which is against our heritage and culture unless we are pressed from you. Let it be clearly known that I have ordered and directed my Palestinian Commandos to destroy every American Politician who supports or negotiates any kind of help to the Zionist State. We are aware of Dayan's visit to the United States in December 1968. This will be his last visit.

"I further more beg and ask again and again please do not make us believe in political assassinations. And as I mentioned above, I am willing to die for America as for Palestine. I hate to see America destroyed by Zionism and Communism. We think in America that we are above Communism and Zionism. The truth is not that, but we are lost in between.

"We thank you for giving this matter the greatest consideration hoping that you will be against the agressors (Zionists) for

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

the sake of justice and the world peace, thank you. Sincerely Yours, (Sharif B. Sirhan) Sharif Sirhan"

The United States Secret Service investigated this thinly veiled threat against the life of the President-elect, Richard M. Nixon. Sharif Sirhan denied to the Secret Service that he wrote the letter or that he had any prior knowledge of it. He refused to furnish the investigators with handwriting exemplars to facilitate the comparison of the signature. During the primary stages of the investigation, evidence indicated that this letter was not written by Sharif Sirhan.

Disturbance at the Sirhan Home

Officer W. Saltsman, Pasadena Police Department, was on the security detail at the Sirhan home on November 1, 1968. At 2:10 p.m. Saidallah Sirhan approached the area on foot and confronted Officer Saltsman at the police vehicle, which was parked in the driveway. He requested the officer to go to the door and ask his mother to come outside. At this time Mrs. Mary Sirhan, Saidallah's mother, exited the house and approached the police unit. When she arrived in the area, Saidallah asked her to give him some money and he added that he knew that she had been receiving money from several Arabian church groups. Mrs. Sirhan stated that she had received no money from anyone. Saidallah replied that he had been advised by several people within these church groups that money was being given to her for the whole Sirhan family. He stated that he was entitled to his share and that he was not going to leave the location until

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

either she gave him some money or had him arrested. Mrs. Sirhan again denied that she was receiving any money and Saidallah stated, "I'll bust you right in the head." Mrs. Sirhan refused to arrest her son for causing a disturbance, and he was persuaded to leave the location to eliminate further disturbance.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

INVOLVEMENT OF INDEPENDENT WRITERS

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Article Entitled "Assassination

Rex Westerfield is the Western Regional Public Relations Director for the John Birch Society. In June 1968, he authored an article entitled "Assassination" which was printed in the June edition of "The Review of the News" a weekly publication of Correction Please, Inc., Belmont, Massachusetts. The article alleged that the assassin of Senator Robert F. Kennedy was a pro-Communist and that the assassination itself was a Marxist conspiracy. Westerfield included a number of statements purporting to prove the existence of a conspiracy. Westerfield was interviewed on August 6, 1968, by the Los Angeles Police Department regarding certain statements contained in his article.

Allegations

Westerfield was questioned about the following statements:

1. "In the frenzy that followed the Kennedy shooting, someone mounted the rostrum in the Embassy Room and announced the shooting was a right-wing plot." Westerfield had written that the person who made the announcement was Stephen Smith, brother-in-law of Robert Kennedy.

   Westerfield actually had received this information from an unnamed source and had not been present when this allegedly occurred. His source told him that Smith was hysterical, in shock, and that immediately after he made the statement he was seized by his friends and removed from the rostrum.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

2. Westerfield had written that Sirhan Sirhan's vehicle had been observed parked near meetings of the W.E.B. Du Bois Club. Westerfield actually had no personal knowledge of this. He quoted Mayor Yorty's News Conferences of June 5 and June 6, 1968, when the Mayor was alleged to have made the above statements.

Westerfield was advised that the Du Bois Club in question was next door to The Fez Cafe located at 1201 North Vermont Avenue and that the vehicle observed parked in the vicinity belonged to Adel Sirhan, an older brother of Sirhan Sirhan. Adel, at that time, was employed at The Fez Cafe as an oud player. Westerfield did not question this information.

3. Westerfield had also alleged that on the night of June 5, George Putnam, then a newscaster for television station KTLA, had interviewed a postal employee who formerly delivered Sirhan B. Sirhan's mail. During the interview the postman allegedly stated he had delivered pro-Communist and anti-American mail to Sirhan B. Sirhan. This mail supposedly came from Jordan. The postman said he had advised his supervisor of this and was informed that post office authorities were aware of the situation.

Westerfield stated he did not know the names of the postman or the supervisor, but that they would undoubtedly be in the files of television station KTLA. He further stated he had based this item on his memory of what he heard on Putnam's television program, and that he had not personally

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

interviewed either the postman or his supervisor.

4. Westerfield had written that Sirhan Sirhan and Lee Harvey Oswald were Socialists and that both had declared themselves Marxists. Westerfield stated he actually had no evidence to confirm the allegation regarding Sirhan Sirhan. He had formed this opinion after hearing about some of the entries made in Sirhan's diary. He felt the background of each indicated that they were Marxists.

5. Westerfield alleged that a female student at Pasadena City College claimed she had been invited to a Du Bois Club meeting by Sirhan Sirhan. When interviewed, Westerfield first stated he did not know the woman's name but that he had received her name from an unnamed male acquaintance. The girl was "petrified and scared and did not want to get involved." He wanted to obtain an affidavit from her which he planned to give to the police, but her male acquaintance stated she refused to talk further about the incident. Westerfield also was told it was common knowledge on the Pasadena City College Campus that Sirhan Sirhan was "mixed up with the Students for a Democratic Society (S.D.S.)." Westerfield implied to investigators that he knew the girl's name but wanted to verify the correct spelling and would furnish her name provided the source of the information was kept absolutely confidential.

Westerfield did not reveal the girl's name although investigators attempted to contact either him or his office six

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

times during the following several weeks.

6. Westerfield had alleged in his article that several months prior to the assassination Saliman Sirhan, a brother of Sirhan Sirhan, had been arrested by the Iraqi government as an Israeli spy. This information was allegedly obtained by Westerfield from a Pasadena newspaper published June 8, 9, or 10, 1968. Sirhan has never had a brother named Saliman.

Westerfield admitted that he compiled the contents of the article from newspaper articles, his own observation of television programs and personal conclusions regarding Sirhan. The evidence strongly indicated that he made little, if any, effort to verify the accuracy of his information.

Summary

The investigation of other allegations regarding Sirhan's background and associations tended also to disprove the claim of Westerfield. Because his allegations were poorly supported and vague, claims did not warrant extensive investigation. It appeared that Westerfield was reaching for any allegation which would support a preconceived point of view. His unwillingness and inability to provide concrete support for his claims caused investigators to discount his allegations.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

THEODORE R. CHARACH

Theodore R. Charach, a free-lance news reporter affiliated with Continental News Service, was interviewed seven times during the investigation in an effort to obtain pertinent information he claimed to possess.

Charach was first interviewed on June 12, 1968. At that time he stated that he was near the Anchor Desk in the Embassy Room at the time of the shooting; he heard the shots but didn't see the suspect. He did not indicate that he was able to assist investigators further, in any way.

A newspaper article from Winnipeg, Canada, was forwarded to the Department. The article stated that Charach was from Winnipeg, that he witnessed the shooting from "just a few feet behind the Senator," and that he saw the maitre d' grab the gun and got a good look at the man police arrested. The article went on to say that Charach had witnessed a man "with a wild look" run from the scene with a security guard chasing him. The article related that Charach heard Sirhan say; "I've got to do this; I'm doing this for the good of my country."

Charach was interviewed by F.B.I. investigators on July 9, 1968. During the interview he stated that he did not see the shooting or Sirhan. He volunteered information that bumper stickers pertaining to a conspiracy to kill President John F. Kennedy were being distributed in the parking lot of the Ambassador Hotel during the victory party. He stated that he obtained one of the bumper stickers, but it was taken from him by a man named Mort Goodman.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

S.U.S. investigators reinterviewed Charach on July 12, 1968, regarding the information printed in the Winnipeg paper. The "wild-eyed man" he saw running from the scene was determined to have been Michael Wayne, who was running to a telephone. Charach admitted that he did not hear Sirhan make any statements; that the statement was heard by Valerie Schulte and relayed to him. He added to the bumper sticker information claiming the people distributing the stickers were "hippies," and the stickers demanded the reopening of the Warren Commission.

Charach stated that he was the representative for a photographer who took motion pictures in the Cocoanut Grove at the Kennedy Rally on June 2, 1968, and additional pictures at the Ambassador Hotel on June 4, 1968. He indicated the film was of evidential value but would not divulge the name of the photographer or location of the film. He agreed to meet with investigators to discuss viewing the film at a later date.

The U.C.L.A. Film Investigation

On July 19, 1968, Charach met with investigators and showed them enlarged photographs which he said were frames from the movie film. Charach expressed the opinion that one of the men in the picture looked like an Arabian and could be a co-conspirator. He said he did not have possession of the original film and again would not furnish the investigator with the photographer's name. Arrangements were made for the film to be delivered to the Department.

Alvin Tokunow, a U.C.L.A. student majoring in motion picture arts,

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

and Charach were interviewed at Parker Center on July 22, 1968. Tokunow released two reels of film which were to be copied by the Department and returned to him. Tokunow stated he did not get into the pantry area and ran out of film prior to the shooting. Tokunow asked investigators to return the film to Charach. The film was returned July 23, 1968. Tokunow said that the film was a copy of all the pictures he and his camera crew possessed. The films were viewed and found to be of very poor quality. Investigators were unable to identify any persons depicted in the film as those involved in the investigation.

The Bumper Sticker Investigation

The information concerning a bumper sticker dealing with the John F. Kennedy assassination, being distributed at the Ambassador Hotel on the eve of his brother's assassination, was first reported by Charach.

James Breslin, a reporter for the New York Post, observed the two people passing out the bumper stickers which he thought said, "Expose the Kennedy Death Hoax." He became offended and requested Mort Goodman, hotel public relations man, to do something about it. Goodman contacted the general manager of the Ambassador Hotel, A. H. Zugor, who notified Gardner of the problem. William Gardner, hotel security chief, reported he was unable to locate the offenders when he checked the area. Gardner stated he gave the bumper sticker to a Los Angeles Police Department officer; however, it was not booked as evidence. The witnesses did not agree on the exact wording of the bumper sticker; however, they did agree that it dealt with the

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

John F. Kennedy assassination and not the Robert F. Kennedy shooting. Gardner instructed his guards to prevent distribution of the material if they observed it.

Charach Alleges Garrison Interested in Case

On July 31, 1968, Charach was reinterviewed after he telephoned investigators and advised that he was in possession of "valuable new evidence." Charach stated he had been contacted by investigators for New Orleans District Attorney, James Garrison, and representatives of Ramparts Magazine. They expressed interest in the U.C.L.A. films, and Charach stated that he was offered an expense-paid trip to New Orleans to confer with Garrison. Charach stated that he had been offered $2000 for the U.C.L.A. film. He also said that he would work as a "spy" in the Garrison organization for the Los Angeles Police Department if he could be assured of financial assistance. His offer was denied.

Re-Examination of The U.C.L.A. Film

Alvin Tokunow was contacted and he stated that Charach was attempting to sell the film, but that he had been turned down by both Time and Life magazines. On September 9, 1968, Tokunow reported that the film and negatives were stolen from his locker at U.C.L.A. Charges and countercharges were exchanged between Charach and Tokunow, but no one admitted having the film. Tokunow notified the Associated Press of the alleged theft. He told them that the film showed Sirhan at the hotel. Investigation by the U.C.L.A. Police Department showed Charach to be an agent representing Tokunow, with legal access to the film. The crime report was classified as unfounded.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

The September 16, 1968, issue of Newsweek Magazine contained an article which stated, in part: "The Los Angeles Police are studying a blow-up of a movie taken by U.C.L.A. students. The U.C.L.A. crew was startled to discover a picture resembling Sirhan on the film taken at two rallies for Kennedy shortly before he was shot. One frame, taken the night of the assassination, shows what appears to be a "solemn, unsmiling Sirhan talking with another short, dark man and a tall girl with upswept hair."

Mr. Eric Saarinen, a U.C.L.A. student, stated that he was another photographer working with Alvin Tokunow. He reported taking pictures of the crowd after the shooting, then taking pictures through the doors. He reported that Tokunow turned all their films over to the Police Department. Investigators noted that no photos taken after the shooting were given them by Tokunow.

The missing film reappeared in the form of three pictures in the January 17, 1969, issue of Life Magazine. The pictures, clear and in good detail, depicted a group of celebrants in the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel. Mrs. Violet Di Domenico telephoned investigators and advised them that she is in the pictures and that they must have been taken at approximately 9:30 p.m., on June 4, 1968, because she was not at that location after that time. The pictures were not large enough to either identify or eliminate Sirhan as being in the picture.

Conclusion

Investigators could not ascertain Charach's reasons for giving

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

a different version of his account to Life Magazine and other publications. It is probable that Charach attempted to gain notoriety from his presence at the hotel and therefore he expanded the importance of the film. The Department has a copy of the U.C.L.A. film, has closely examined each frame, and found that it has no evidential value.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FERNANDO FAURA

Fernando Faura was a staff reporter with the Valley Times and the Citizen News, both Los Angeles newspapers. Faura was active, following the assassination, in efforts to establish the existance of a conspiracy in the death of Senator Kennedy. He was involved with John Fahey who claimed to have met a girl at the Ambassador Hotel the day of the shooting.

Faura also contacted Theodore Charach a photographer who had taken movie films of Kennedy functions at the Ambassador Hotel on June 2 and 4, 1968. According to Charach, Faura was present at a meeting held July 31, 1968 at the Hollywood Franklin Apartments in Hollywood. Also present among others was Mark Lane the author. At the meeting Faura expressed the opinion that there was a conspiracy and that the police had more than one person in custody and weren't telling the public about it.

Faura also interviewed several people in his efforts to substantiate the existance of a female conspirator. On August 14, 1968 an article, written by Faura, appeared in the Citizen News and alleged that the police were still "feverishly" looking for the "mysterious girl in the polka dot dress."

The Fahey and Charach investigation are covered elsewhere in this report. All of the allegations forwarded by Faura were disproven by the Department's investigation.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

JONN G. CHRISTIAN

Jonn G. Christian, a free lance writer, actively conducted his own investigation into the Kennedy assassination which he claimed would prove the existance of a conspiracy between Jerry Owen, a self-styled minister, and Sirhan Sirhan. Christian based his allegation on what he termed discrepancies in the various statements Owen made to the Los Angeles Police Department and to Attorney George T. Davis.

On June 5, 1968, Jerry Owen contacted the Department and related that on June 3, 1968, while driving in Los Angeles, he had picked up two hitchikers one of whom he later identified from a newspaper photograph as Sirhan. Owen subsequently "went into hiding" in the San Francisco area.

On June 30, 1968, the San Francisco Examiner published Owen's narrative of his involvement with Sirhan and related that Owen was hiding out because he had received threatening telephone calls. Owen also related his story to George T. Davis, a San Francisco attorney and personal friend. Davis and William Turner tape recorded this interview, according to Christian. William Turner, who was dismissed from the F.B.I. after ten years service, is covered in a separate section of this report.

On July 1, 1968, issues of several Central California area newspapers carried stories that a minister was hiding out in that general area because he had information which proved a conspiracy in the assassination of Senator Kennedy and had received threats against his life. Attorney George T. Davis was quoted as saying

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

he had known Owen for twenty-five years and believed him to be reliable. These news stories included Owen's statement of his activities on June 3, 4, and 5, in the Los Angeles area which differed from his earlier statements to the Los Angeles Police Department and to Davis and Turner.

On August 7, 1968, Christian contacted Jack Brown of the office of Los Angeles Mayor Sam Yorty and stated he had a taped statement of Owen that alleged a conspiracy in the death of Senator Kennedy. Brown relayed this information to the Los Angeles Police Department who interviewed Christian via telephone in San Francisco on August 7 and 9, 1968.

When interviewed Christian said that the tape recording of Owen, when compared with Owen's statements to the news media, indicated he was not telling the truth. Christian indicated that he and his associate, William Turner, desired to be "deputized" so they could work with the Police Department in connection with "this conspiracy angle." He also wanted a copy, or to hear the Department's tape recorded interview of Owen because it might be different from his tape.

Both Christian and Turner believed that Sirhan and Owen were together on June 4, and that they conspired to assassinate Senator Kennedy. Christian added that with Sirhan in police custody and the get-away plan aborted, Owen was trying to establish an alibi.

Edgar Eugene Bradley, according to Christian, who is currently under extradition proceedings to Louisiana; and Clay Shaw,

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

another figure in the alleged conspiracy to kill President John F. Kennedy, all belonged to the same church organization and knew each other.

Christian further added that he had "just an hour ago" received some additional "hard core" evidence. This turned out to be a statement made by Owen to the newspapers which again did not correspond with statements given in his recorded interview.

Christian made the statement that "In negotiations with NBC I played back the tape conversation with Jack Brown, (from Mayor Yorty's Office) and part of your conversation so that they can understand that we're dealing in highly confidential areas.

There is to be no public announcement, or any indication at all on what we are doing here. We intend to work on this from a journalistic and broadcast standpoint in connection with the Los Angeles Police Department." (Christian's emphasis)

On August 11, 1968, Christian contacted the Police Department and repeated his request to be deputized. He stated he had sent a "transcript of the tape" to Frank Burns, Jesse Unruh's attorney. On August 14, a tape recording of Jerry Owen was sent to the police department by Frank Burns. On it Jerry Owen describes his alleged activities in relation to the Kennedy assassination.

On August 14, Christian sent to the police department a document entitled "Discrepancy Report #1" "The Plot to Murder R.F.K." in which he enumerated thirteen, according to him, discrepancies between the statements Owen made to the San Francisco Examiner and the statements he made to Davis. Christian ends with a

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"Critical Analysis" in which he alleges the existence of a conspiracy.

On November 13, 1968, Christian contacted Jack Brown and Ron Ellensohn of Mayor Yorty's Office and played for them the Owen tape recording in an attempt to further his claim of conspiracy. He also implied that Chief Deputy Attorney General Charles O'Brien had taken a direct interest in the case and had assigned all of his investigative forces to work on it. Investigation proved this claim to be unfounded and that Mr. O'Brien had made no such assignement.

On January 21, 1969, Christian was personally interviewed by the police department upon his claim of possessing new evidence. He was accompanied by Richard Lubic, a former television producer for KHJ, a Los Angeles television station. Lubic claims to have been approached by representatives of Jim Garrison who attempted to enlist his aid. However, on August 9, 1968, Lubic had told investigators that he had been contacted by William Turner who told him about Jerry Owen. Lubic said at that time that he believed their story to be a scheme to make money.

During the meeting, Christian, in an effort to substantiate his allegations of conspiracy, played a tape recording which included conversations between himself and Jonathan Perkins, an 80-year-old retired preacher and friend of Owen; a tape of a conversation between Ben Hardester, a private detective an associate of George Davis and a photographer who had film of Owen on the pulpit; and a tape of a conversation between himself and Bert Morris, the manager of the Coliseum Hotel.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

These conversations contained no information of investigative value.

In that portion of the tape relating to the telephone conversation between Christian and Jonathan Perkins, Christian attempted to place the time of Owen's statement to Perkins regarding the sale of a horse to Sirhan as occurring prior to the shooting. Jonathan Perkins was interviewed by investigators on February 11, 1969, and recalled the telephone conversation with Christian. He stated that Christian identified himself as a police officer working on the investigation. Perkins did not recall exactly what he told Christian, but he was able to accurately pinpoint the date and time of his conversation with Owen. He stated that the first time he had any conversation with Owen regarding Owen's possible connection with Sirhan was June 5, 1968, between 2:00 and 3:00 p.m. Perkins was already aware of the assassination having heard news broadcasts over television and radio prior to seeing Owen.

Conclusion

Jonn Christian maintained from his first contact with the police department that Jerry Owen was involved in a conspiracy to kill Senator Kennedy. He based his contentions primarily upon what he terms "discrepancies" between the statements Owen made to the Department, the San Francisco Examiner and George Davis. He has advanced no valid proof. He has instead, by various machinations, attempted to convince various official agencies that the other was interested in the investigation. Although Owen had been proven to have made numerous false statements

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

regarding his involvement in the assassination, an independent investigation conducted by the Los Angeles Police Department has proven that Owen was not involved in any way.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

WILLIAM TURNER

Former F. B. I. Agent William Turner, now a writer, is described by Jonn Christian as an "associate" in Christian's investigation of Jerry Owen.

Turner and Author Mark Lane appeared on the Owen Span television show in Oakland on July 23, 1968. On the show Turner criticized the Warren Commission, discussed what he termed Federal intervention in the Garrison investigation in New Orleans and commented on various persons he claimed were involved in the Robert Kennedy assassination. Among those he referred to were Jose Duarte, Jerry Owen, Eugene Bradley and the girl in the polka dot dress. Although Turner never actually mentioned any of the above names, he implied that these parties were part of a conspiracy. The investigation conducted by this Department disproved all of the allegations made by Turner.

Turner was a special agent with the F.B.I. from 1951 until his dismissal in 1961. The charges on which his dismissal was based included that he had demonstrated through various untrue or unjustified statements that he lacked the truthfulness, accuracy and responsibility required of an F.B.I. agent and that he had shown a poor attitude toward the F.B.I. and its director. Turner's appeal of the dismissal reached the Supreme Court which in 1964 denied a Writ of Certiorari.

As a writer Turner's articles have appeared in such publications as Saga, The Nation, Playboy and Ramparts. A recent

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

book written by Turner, The Police Establishment, is critical of law enforcement. The F.B.I. has reported that Turner has associated himself with New Orleans District Attorney James Garrison's campaign to prove that President John F. Kennedy's assassination was the result of a highly organized plot and not the work of one man acting alone. Turner was a Democrat Party candidate for Congress in California's 6th District in 1968, but he lost in the primary.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

SUMMARY OF LETTERS RECEIVED BY S.U.S.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

SUMMARY OF LETTERS SENT TO S.U.S.

As of January 14, 1969, the S.U.S. Unit had received a total of 296 unsolicited letters. These were in addition to mail received in response to the Unruh letter and written inquiries sent to specific individuals or agencies. All mail received by the Los Angeles Police Department, dealing with the Kennedy assassination, was forwarded to the Unit. Seven letters received by other agencies were forwarded to the Unit.

Fifty-three letters contained information regarding the case. Twenty-six made reference to the polka dot girl investigation, most of which advised investigators to review the television films of the occurrence. Twenty-eight contained various complaints about miscellaneous items not pertaining to the investigation, and 128 merely contained general comments about the case. Fourteen were threats against Sirhan or his attorneys, and thirty-three were classified as crank letters. The crank classification included letters that rambled on about current or imagined social ills and letters that suggested painful ways to interrogate Sirhan. Sixty-two letters were sent anonymously.

Six of the letters required an answer from the Department, and thirty-nine necessitated an investigative follow-up, some of which involved single interviews while others needed several. None of the letters were instrumental in opening any significant phase of the of the investigation.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176